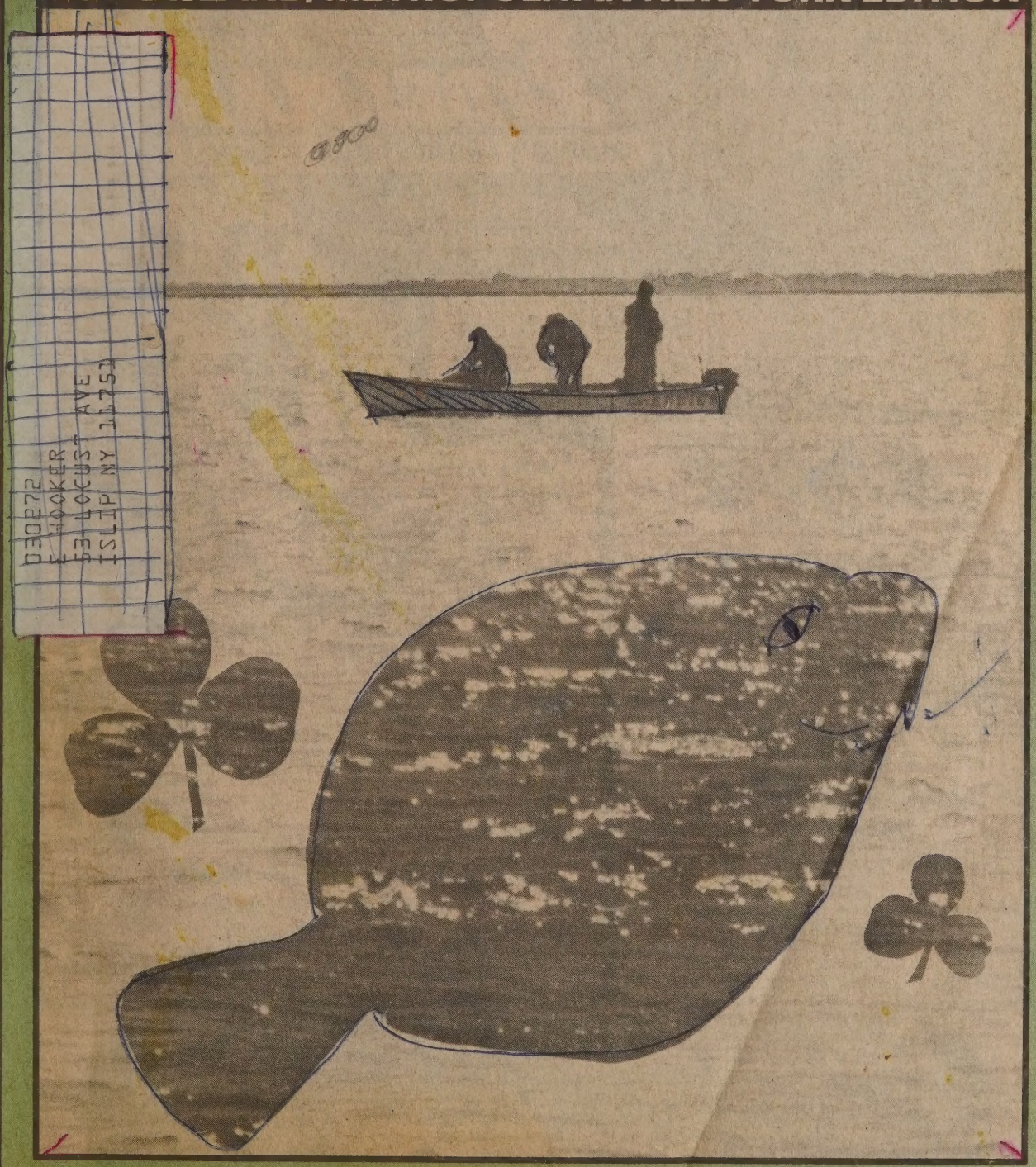
March 13th—19th, 1986, No. 10

35¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION



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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 21, Number 10 March 13th, 1986

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Although some fine flatfish action normally occurs prior to Saint Patrick's Day, this holiday marks the traditional start to the flounder season in our area. See this week's fishing reports for an update on the flatfish action and page 26 for some tips on how you can improve your flounder score. Cover photo by Dick Mermon.

Publisher: Richard Reina

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge Street, P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. Telephone: 516-725-4200. Second Class Postage paid at Sag Harbor, New York. $.75 per copy, back issues $1. Subscriptions: 50 issues, $17.50; 100 Issues, $33. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions become the property of The Long Island Fisherman. All contributions to be returned must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. All consideration will be given to these requests, however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both new and old addresses and sent to the Main Office. Allow two to four weeks for change. USPS 588-160.

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EDITORIAL

STRIPED BASS MANAGEMENT DEPENDENT UPON STUDDS ACT

Within the time frame of the last two-thirds of a decade, affirmative action has been taken on a national basis to conserve and manage striped bass stocks.

The first step was the success of Senator John Chafee in amending the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act to include an emergency research endeavor as part of developing and maintaining proper striped bass management.

The second big step came when Congressman Gerald E. Studds in 1984 authored and succeeded in achieving the passage of the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act. This Act put teeth into the coastal effort to manage striped bass. Without this Act, individual states could agree with the management strategy established by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Interstate Management Plan for Striped Bass), but could also ignore them, not implement them in their waters and not be subject to penalty. The Studds Act allows the ASMFC to intercede if states fail to implement striped bass management recommendations in a manner compatible with their unique fisheries and traditions, yet within the framework of the plan. Effectively, this meant the Federal government would be able to enforce and implement management within states. Given this country's long history and love of states rights, the ability to step in, provided considerable motivation for states to get going on meaningful striped bass management.

However, there is a minor fly in the ointment. The Studds Bill was only funded for 18 months and this runs out in April, 1986. In order for there to be back-up support for the ASMFC management plan, the Studds Bill will have to be re-authorized before it runs out in April, 1986. In this era of Federal budget watching and the pressing demands for expensive social legislation, re-authorization of the Studds Bill might not be as easy as it otherwise would.

Regardless of whether you agree completely, or in part, or for that matter disagree, with striped bass management methods, we should all be able to agree that continued striped bass management is important. We have all lived through a period of sudden decline in striped bass stocks, and we feel we should all be able to agree that a steady supply of stripers and a recuperation of striped bass stocks is in everyone's best interest, including the striped bass.

If indeed we can agree upon the need for steady supplies of bass into future decades, then we should also be able to agree upon the need for a plan to manage the resource. If we can agree upon this, then we can spend the next decade or so fine-tuning management until we achieve maximum benefit and minimum hardship.

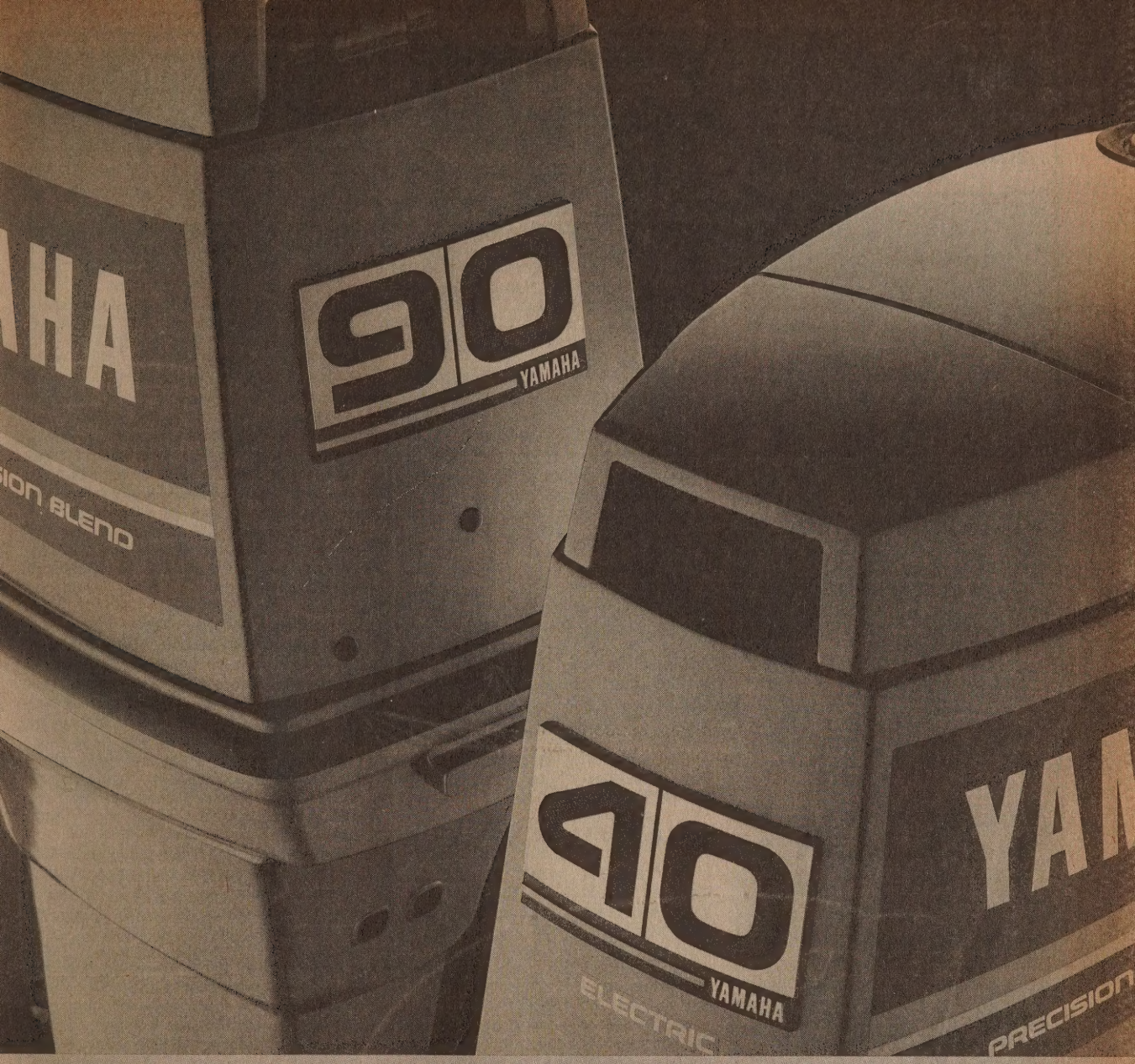
If we can agree upon this, then we should be able to agree that any law or plan without "teeth" is meaningless and useless. If we can agree upon this fact, then we should be willing to drop a short note to our Congressman urging support for re-authorization of the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act.

We recently spoke with Fred Schwab, our citizens' representative to the Striped Bass Management Project that developed the ASMFC plan. He was kind enough to provide us with background information and an address. Please write to: Rep. Gerry E. Studds, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Fred also asks we write a second letter to our respective Congressman. He says we can use the same address listed for Studds.

We all have a stake in striped bass. For those of us who remember the glory days of several decades past, the stake is rooted both in the past as well as the present and future. For those who can't remember those good old days, we wish a future ocean filled with as many bass as in those "old" days, so that all of you, too, can hold forever those rich and treasured memories. Please write today and earn your stake in tomorrow.

William A. Muller



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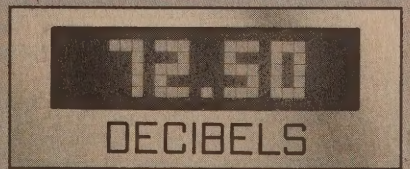

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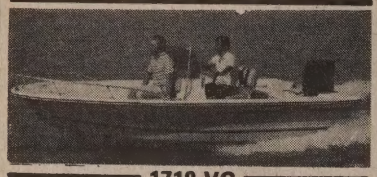

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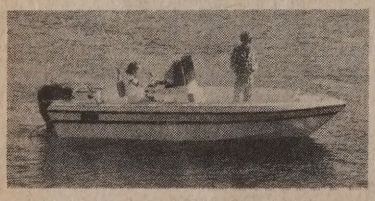

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PASS IT ON

MORICHES ANGLERS CLUB FISHING CLINIC TO BENEFIT SEND-A-KID FISHING PROGRAM

The Moriches Anglers Club will be sponsoring an inshore/offshore fishing clinic featuring two of Montauk's greatest charter boat captains: John DeMaio and Zac Grossman, on the night of March 20th, Thursday, starting at 7:30 PM sharp!

Come see and hear these two experts reveal the successful secrets and methods that have made them one of Montauk's most famous duos. If you fish Long Island's shores, you won't want to miss this great opportunity to share an evening and pick the brains of the experts.

This event, moderated by Lorry Mangan, will be open to the public and held at the Center Moriches High School auditorium on the Moriches Bypass, Center Moriches.

There will be a nominal admission charge of $3; all proceeds will be donated to The Fisherman Magazine's Send-A-Kid Fishing Program; in which you'll all be helping a worthy cause. There will be refreshments served.

For additional information, please call Chairman Tom Montalbano at 281-0235 after 6PM eves.

CLEAN-UP WANTAGH LAKES DAY

On Saturday, April 12th, a major clean-up project is planned at the Wantagh Lakes. The clean-up which will begin at 10AM will concentrate on improving Brown's Pond, the North Twin Lake and the stream which connects a chain of six ponds and lakes in Wantagh.

In addition to picking up man-made debris, such as beer bottles, tires and shopping carts, special details will be organized to rebuild a waterfall in the stream and clear log jams. According to the events promoter, Dave Romeo, the Wantagh Lakes offer freshwater anglers some of the best largemouth bass, crappie and grass pickerel fishing in all of Nassau County. Many freshwater anglers who fish these waters are expected to take part in this clean-up effort to show their support of clean water in Nassau County.

Several outdoor organizations have already made commitments to participate in the April 12th clean-up including the Master Anglers, Sea Grant, the Outcast Anglers, Trout Unlimited and the Nassau County Fish and Game association. In addition, individuals from as far away as Flanders have volunteered their assistance even though they have never fished the Wantagh Lakes.

According to the Town of Hempstead's Jim Brown, the event's progress "is music to my ears." The town will supply trash bags and trucks to dispose of all gathered debris.

All participants should wear rubber boots, hip boots or chest waders. Everyone is expected to bring some kind of useful took such as shovels, rakes, axes, bow saws, chain saws, strong rope, work gloves, wheelbarrows, wagons or hedge clippers.

Parking is available at the Forest Lake School which is located just north of Brown's Pond on Beltagh Avenue.

Adults are encouraged to bring along youngsters so they may witness the cooperative efforts of all clean-up participants. All individuals or organizations interested in taking part in the Wantagh Lakes Clean-up are asked to call Dave Romeo at (516) 228-6837 weekdays between the hours of 9AM and 5PM.

APPLICATIONS FOR STATE CAMPS BEING ACCEPTED

Environmental Conservation Commissioner Henry G. Williams announced today that applications are now available for girls and boys who would like to participate in New York State's Environmental Education Summer Camp Program. Applications for 12 to 17 year old students are now being accepted on a first come, first served basis.

"Traditionally, boys have been the predominant attendees at the department's education camps," Williams said. "In the past few years there has been a trend toward more and more girls attending camp and it is a trend we encourage. Many girls have found that environmental education camp has been the springboard toward a career in the natural sciences and I urge those interested to apply for this summer's program," Williams said. The commissioner also urged educational, sportsmen's and conservation groups to participate in a "camperships" program that make a free week at camp available to economically disadvantaged children.

DEC operates four environmental education camps. Camp Colby in the Adirondacks, Camp DeBruce in the Catskills and Camp Rushford in southwestern New York State offer an environmental education experience for young people ages 12 to 14. The Rogers Ecology Workshop in central New York offers a more advanged program for teenagers 15 to 17 years old. Week-long camp sessions at Colby, DeBruce and Rushford begin June 20 and run through August 23. There will be five one-week sessions at Rogers beginning June 29. The cost of the week-long program is $120, which includes room and board.

The camp program allows youngsters to participate in an outdoor

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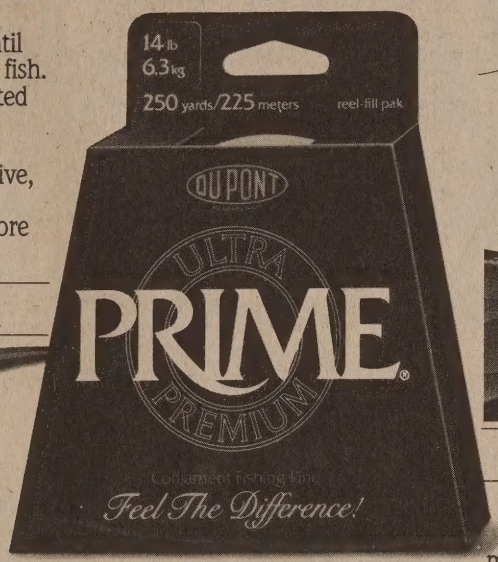

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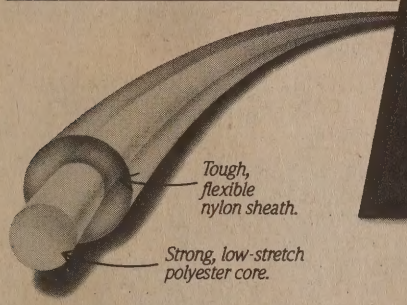

To create Prime, Du Pont introduced the first cofilament fishing line. It combines the advantages of two very different materials—a core of strong, low-stretch polyester surrounded by a sheath of tough, yet flexible, nylon. It marks the leading edge of line technology.

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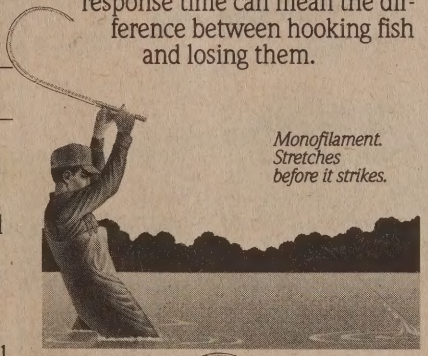

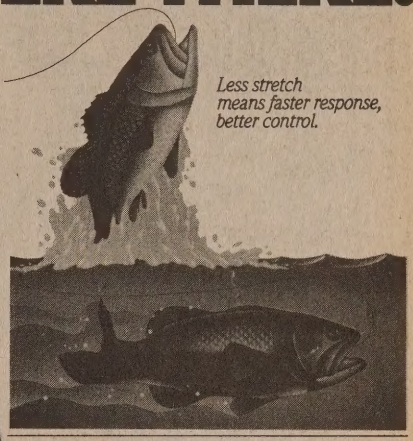

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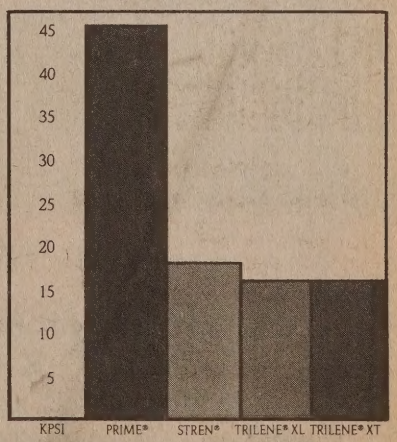

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Organizations such as sportsmen's clubs, civic groups and professional societies are urged to sponsor campers. If a sponsor group is not available, parents may cover their child's expenses.

For more information and applications write to: DEC Camps, Room 504, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233-0001.

SFI INTRODUCES SPORT FISHING MONITOR

The Sport Fishing Institute (SFI) has launched a vital new educational link within the sport fishing fraternity: the Sport Fishing *Monitor*—A Monthly Report of Governmental Issues Affecting Sport Fishing.

Started with a $10,000 contribution from the FishAmerica Foundation, the *Monitor* serves as a comprehensive clearinghouse to college, analyze and disseminate information relating to fisheries law and regulatory matters to groups involved in clean water and sport fishing issues.

Norville Prosser, SFI's Vice President and Editor of the *Monitor*, remarked, "At the present time no such service exists to provide dependable information to strengthen and unite disparate grops who need ready access to information on issues that require comment, advocacy and action."

The Monitor provides a mechanism to describe governmental activities in layman terms and thereby better equip sport fishing advocates to participate in the decision-making processes through the power of information. "In the process," Prosser continued, "the entire sport fishing spectrum will be strenghtened and able to act in unison on issues affecting water and fish."

Recipients of the Monitor include professional and citizen fishery conservation organizations, the sport fishing industry and governmental fishery administrators.

The Sport Fishing Institute, founded in 1949, is devoted to the protection, enhancment and wise use of America's freshwater and marine aquatic resources, espcially fish populations and essential habitats SFI provides more and better sport

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Photo by Forest Johnson

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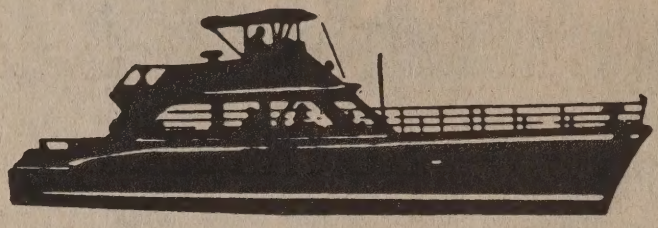

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fishing opportunities through the application of fishery science.

NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL REEF PLAN RELEASED

The National Artificial Reef Plan, required by the National Fishing Enhancement Act, Public Law 98-623, Title II, has been completed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Section 202 of the Act recognized that "...properly designed, constructed, and located artificial reefs...can enhance the habitat and diversity of fishery resources." The law estabished a national policy to promote and facilitate responsible and effective efforts to establish artificial reefs. It will: 1) enhance fishery resources to the maximum extent practicable; 2) facilitate access and utilization by United States recreational and commercial fishermen; 3) minimize conflicts among competing uses of waters covered under the Act and the resources in such waters; 4) minimize environmental risks to personal health and property; and 5) be consistent with generally accepted principles of international law and shall not create any unreasonable obstruction to navigation.

To accomplish these purposes, Congress directed the Secretary of Commerce to develop and publish a long-term plan. The National Artificial Reef Plan was formulated by federal agencies involved in reviewing and approving federal permits for artificial reef construction, and with assistance from states and local governments, Regional Fishery Management Councils, and Marine Fisheries Commissions, industry, artificial reef authorities and the public.

The plan serves three major functions. First, based on the best available scientific information, it provides guidance to individuals, organizations and government agencies on technical aspects of artificial reef planning, design, siting, construction and management.

Second, the Plan is a guide and technical reference for federal and state agencies involved in artificial reef permitting and management, to help meet the national standards and objective established by the Act. The Act requires the Secretary of the Army to ensure that siting, construction, monitoring and arrangement of artificial reefs are conducted in a manner consistent with standards set forth in the Act. The Secretary of the Army must consider the Plan when issuing an artificial reef permit and notify the Secretary of Commerce of any need to depart from the Plan.

Third, the Plan encourages and provides guidance for developing detailed, site-specific, regional, state and local artificial reef plans that focus on criteria for specific conditions.

Compiled by Richard Stone of NMFS, the Plan represents a team effort by a large number of knowledgeable experts on artificial reefs. The Plan is an important step for artificial

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Please fill out this rebate order form and attach the original UPC code from the reel box and the dated sales receipt with the reel and rod prices circled. (No reproductions!)

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reef development in this country. Developers will now have a policy to work from, removing much of the uncertainty which may have existed in the past. The National Artificial Reef Plan is a "working document" and as more work is done, will undergo refinement as artificial reefs be come a greater part of fishery development and management. As of December 1985, several state artificial reef plans were being developed in various parts of the country. The Plan should stimulate and guide additional development in other geographical areas.

Single copies of the Plan are available for free from the National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Washington, DC 20235.

TACKLE SHOP OPENS IN FRANKLIN SQUARE

Cast-A-Way Bait and Tackle, a new tackle shop located at 757 Hempstead Tpke., Franklin Square, will be having its grand opening on Sunday, March 16th. The owner and proprietor, Fred Mello will have movies, special discounts and free food from Noon to 5PM. You're all invited down to partake and say hello.

FISHING HALL OF FAME BESTOWS ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT AWARDS

"The National Fishing Hall of Fame, a non-profit, public service organization granted its third annual dual awards to a government entity and to an organization for 1986," according to William (Bill) Gautsche, the Hall's awards national committee chairman.

He announced that the State Conservation Department of Illinois is the recipient for the Hall's 1986 honor for its outstanding work in revitalizing the Ilinois fishing resource.

A recent $19 million hatchery expansion program was effected which greatly enhanced the state's fish planting program and created an opportunity to work in concert with Illinois state, city park districts to develop programs for urban youngsters' instruction and fishing opportunities.

The organizational award was accorded the James B. Beam Distilling Company of Chicago and Kentucky for subscribing to the "dream" of a Fishing Hall of Fame and becoming the Hall's first major supporter.

Through its issue and sale of a "Beam" collector's decanter fish series, Jim Beam generated about $25,000 a year in seed money for ten years, for the fledgling concept to take hold and gave the Hall of Fame the necssary time to establish more funds, credibility and growth.

The organizational award program was established in 1984 and the first recipient was the Zebco Corporation for its founding of the "Fish America Foundation." In 1985 the award went to the Sport Fishing Institute.

The government entity award was initiated by the Fishing Hall of Fame in 1985 with the first award going to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Service.

Nominations for 1987 consideration are being accepted now. Inquire: The National Fishing Hall of Fame, Box 33, Hall of Fame Drive, Hayward, WI 54843; (715) 634-4440.

MERRICK ROD & GUN CLUB ANNOUNCES NEW SLATE

The Merrick Rod & Gun Club held its annual Installation Dinner-Dance on February 22nd at the Bellmore Masonic Lodge. New officers for 1986 are as follows:

President: Bill Richko; Vice President: Paul Kimbley; Recording Secy: John Gallagher; Treasurer: Bob Murphy; Financial Secy: Rich Ford; Sgt. of Arms: Bill Heide; and Trustees: Rich Kimbley, Ron Krynski and Joe Rostkowski. Outstanding Fisherman of 1985 was Bill Heide.

Fishermen interested in joining our Seaford Harbor based club, please contact Bill Richko at (516) 826-7887.

NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR SOUTHOLD FISHING CLUB

The Southold Fishing Club announces their new officers for 1986 as follows:

President: Harold Schwerdt; Vice President: Art Zielinski; Secretary: Jim Castagna; and Treasurer: Tom Sheridan.

A Club Luncheon for member and spouses is planned for March 13th at Porkeys Restaurant, at which time the new officers will be sworn in.

Award Plaques for the eight local fish species caught in 1985 for heaviest fish will be awarded by Art Zielinski, Awards Chairman.

Additional Plaques will be awarded for Heaviest specified fish taken on the club trips in 1985.

PLANO MAKES IT EASY TO PICK LURE COLORS

For bassin' guys and gals—and other anglers as well—the Plano people have made it easy to make a quick pick of the right lure color.

Starting immediately special adhesive labels coordinated with Dr. Loren Hill's popular new Color-C-Lector will be packed (at no extra cost) in the three Plano Magnum boxes that bass fishermen favor: Models 1162, 1123 and 1141.

Order blanks for these helpful labels will go into most other Plano boxes. The price: two sets for $1, half of which Plano will contribute to the betterment of sport fishing.

The label sheets will be colored and alphabet-coded in harmony with the Color-C-Lector system on small squares that can be peeled off and affixed to the Magnum see-through lids over compartments holding lures of that hue. Each square will be imprinted with a code letter and the color.

On other boxes, the squares can be pasted on the side of each compartment, or on the outside of pull drawers.

"Dr. Hill's system has been widely accepted, especially by bass fisher-

CAPITOL FISHING TACKLE

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Values to $38.00

YOUR CHOICE NOW.. $19.95 each

BUY-NOW AND SAVE!!! WHILE THEY LAST!

CX-1000
Weight 6.8 oz., gear ratio 5.2:1, line test/capacity 2/310, 4/165, 6/105. Ultra-lite special for big fish on ultra-lite tackle.

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Weight 9.8 oz., gear ratio 5.1:1, line test/capacity 6/180, 8/140, 10/105. Light tackle special. Most popular fresh water spinning reel size.

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Weight 12.5 oz., gear ratio 4.7:1, line test/capacity 8/285, 10/215, 12/190. Medium tackle special. Top choice for big bass, walleye, steelhead and saltwater.

FANTASTIC SALE PRICES ON ALL SHIMANO RODS AND REELS

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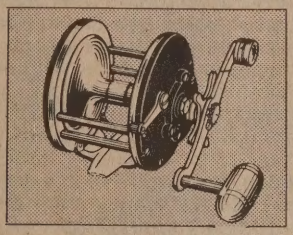

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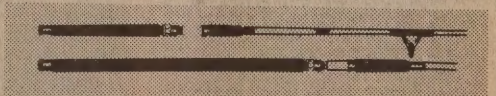

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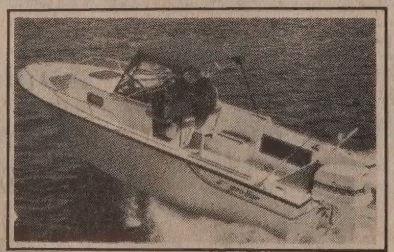
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men," said Bill Cork, Plano's Consumer Relations Manager. "We want to make it as easy and as orderly as possible for our customers to take advantage of it."

Cork said that using the new Plano labels will also offer a fringe benefit. "They'll surely help put the tackle boxes in better order and make lure selection simpler and quicker in all situations." he said.

You needn't buy a Plano box to get the labels. They can be obtained directly from Cork at two sets for $1. Address: Plano Molding Co., P.O. Box 189, Plano, IL 60545.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ANNOUNCE 10th ANNUAL INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

This invitation is extended to all clubs who fish on Long Island. This being the tenth anniversary for these events. As in the previous nine years, the Atlantis Anglers aspire to another successful running. The schedule for our three Interclub Tournaments for 1986 is as follows:

Flounder, April 26th and 27th; weakfish, May 31st and June 1st; Fluke, June 28th and 29th. These are all weekend events. For additional information telephone Bob Brucato, between 6PM and 10PM at (516) 868-7639.

The Atlantis Anglers is looking to attract new members. For information, call Jay Ebbets, (516) 766-4381. We are a Freeport based club with members residing in Nassau, Queens and Suffolk Counties.

INFORMATION BOOKLET ABOUT HYPOTHERMIA AVAILABLE

A new eight-page booklet entitled "Questions & Answers About Hypothermia and Cold Water Survival," is available from Mustang Mfg. Inc., of Bellingham, WA. For over 20 years, Mustang has been a leading manufacturer and developer of quality flotation and anti-hypothermia products for aviation, commercial and recreational marine, sporting and other specialty applications.

The information booklet is the result of a scientific study performed in conjunction with the University of Victoria on human immersion in cold water. The effects studied closely parallel the experiences of many marine accident victims, notes Ken Grosick, Jr., vice president of marketing at Mustang. "We've found ways to increase survival time through the effective use of new technological advances in product components and the scientific application of ergonomics."

Included in the booklet is easily understood information on hypothermia and tips for reducing heat loss and rewarming techniques should cold water immersion occur. The booklet stresses that drowning and hypothermia are two separate and distinct hazards. "Remember, drowning is a hazard that can be reduced by use of an approved personal flotation device, while hypothermia is a

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A 1986 T-BIRD

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15 BRONCO IIs

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25 4X4 PICK-UPS

200 VANS 4X4s BROs

Mustang COBRA GT

JUST ARRIVED

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INVENTORY LIQUIDATION SALE

9-9 FRIDAY

9-6 SAT

9-9 MON

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AEROSTAR VAN CONVERSIONS IN STOCK NOW!

LOW, LOW PRICES

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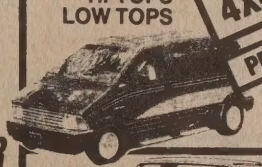
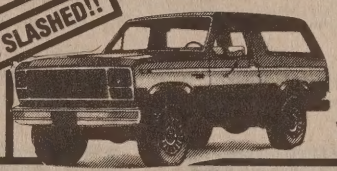
PRICES SLASHED!!





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PARCELs - DUMPs - PLATFORMs - STAKES

OVER 200 4X4s BRONCOs & VANS MUST GO!

TRUCK SERVICE 8:00 AM-1:00 AM

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10 CHASSIS ARRIVING

HEAVY DUTY TRUCKS NOW AVAILABLE!!

SAYVILLE FORD

SHOP & COMPARE THEN COME SAVE!

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NEW YORK STATE'S TAURUS DISCOUNT CENTER

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112 pages

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separate problem that is not so easily solved, and merits individual attention."

The free booklet is available from Mustang Mfg. Inc., P.O. Box 5844, Bellingham, WA 98227.

BOATING SAFETY COURSE IN SECAUCUS

Flotilla 3-2 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will hold a free boating safety course at their Auxiliary Barge, meadowlands Pkwy., Secaucus, N.J. (next to the Aratusa Restaurant. It begins April 14th, 7:30PM and continues twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays for 6 wseeks. Pre-registration is required.

The only cost includes $25 for cost of materials and testing. Call 864-4073, Emile De Cosmo, Public Education Officer, Fl. 3-2, for more information.

Upon completion of the course, students will be awarded a certificate from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Family participation is greatly encouraged.

BOATING COURSES

A 12-week course is being given by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary which includes rules of the road, charts and compass, weather, radio-telephone, marlinspike, seamanship, boat handling and marine engines.

In Long Beach, classes start Tuesday, March 11th at 8PM at the Long Beach Middle School in Lido Beach.

In Island Park, registration is by phone (516) 889-7016, from 6 to 9 PM. Classes start Monday, April 14th at 8PM at Lincoln Oren Junior High School.

In Island Park only, a young people's boating course of 5 sessions will be given. Registration is by telephone. Classes start Monday, April 14 at 8PM.

There is no charge for the course, only a minimum charge for the text book. For further information, call Julie Sanchez at (516) 889-7016.

MID-ISLAND SURFCASTERS ANNOUNCE NEW OFFICERS FOR 1986

The Mid-Island Surfcasters have elected a new slate of officers for 1986: President: Bob Buss; Vice President: Don Palmer; Secretary: Chris Rance; and Treasurer: Tom Watters. Many thanks to last year's officers, who did an excellent job in dealing with a rapidly expanding club.

MIS is now in its third year, with a roster of active members numbering well over thirty. Our club is open to men and women over the age of 17, and our only real competition takes place within the New York Surf Fishing Contest, where we placed fourth in overall points and second in released fish points last season.

Any interested fishermen are welcome to join, and can do so by contacting either Bob Buss at (516) 796-5166 or Don Palmer at (516) 223-4416.

Your Presence is Hereby Requested
at the

GRAND RE-OPENING

of our
NEWLY RE-MODELED STORE

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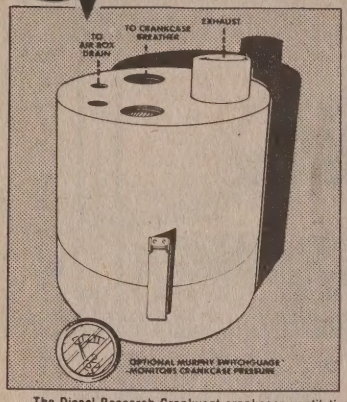

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BOATS FOR ANGLERS:

TOPAZ 32

by Pete Barrett

"Sportfishing perfection" is how Topaz Marine describes the 32 foot sportfisherman they introduced last year. The description is not just an advertising copywriter's dream, judging from the enthusiastic remarks made by fishermen who have seen the 32 at shows from Annapolis to Norwalk. Everyone seems to agree that this is one super fishing boat.

Pat Patteson, founder and President of Topaz Marine, has been a pace setter for the mid-range sport fishing boat industry ever since the original 28 Topaz. Later, the trend-setting 36 with the wide open raised helm deck and huge cockpit became THE sportfisherman to imitate, as other manufacturers introduced similar boats into this growing segment of the boating market.

Not content to rest on his laurels and with a firm desire to stay ahead of increasing competition, Patteson introduced several new boats in 1985: a 37 footer and the 32 footer which we'll look at here. Testimony as to how well fishermen have received the 32 are told by the brisk sales of Topaz dealers like Atlantic Sport Fishing in New Jersey and Norwest Marine in Connecticut. This boat has taken off like a shot.

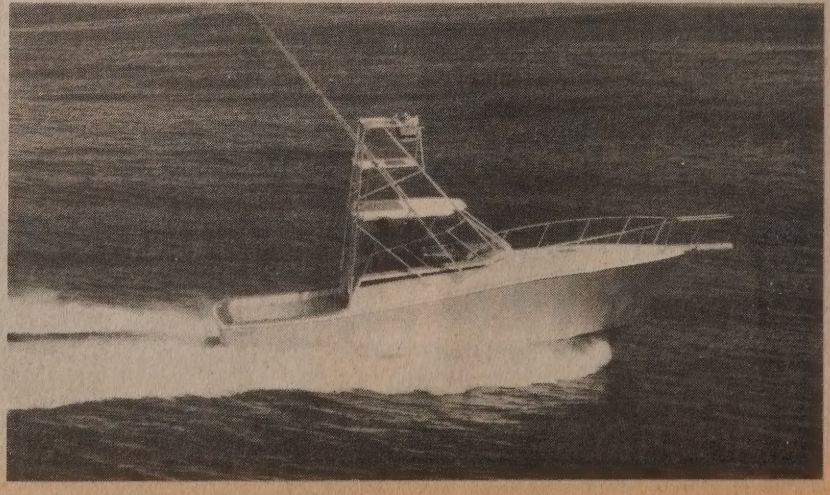
The 32 hull is constructed of traditional fiberglass with heavy duty wood stringers encapsulated and sealed in fiberglass. Trim tabs are built into the underside of the hull so there is no overhang to interfere when boating fish. Rudders, struts, propellers and shaft logs are bronze; shafts are 1¾ stainless. Decks are constructed of foam core materials to reduce weight without sacrificing strength.

The engine room is painted white with all plumbing and wiring neatly harnessed and routed for easy servicing. Several engine options, including the economical 250 hp Volvo TAMD 60 C diesels up to the 375 hp Caterpillar 3208TA, are available and are bedded on Rock of Gibralter looking aluminum mounts.

The twin Volvos will reportedly push the 32 to a 22/23 knot cruise with a 25/26 knot maximum speed consuming 12/14 gallons per hour. The brawny cats will hit the 30 knot range but will run up a bigger fuel bill at 20+ gallons per hour.

Topaz is famous for its finely finished teak cabin interiors and the 32 is no exception. The forward vee berths are 6½ feet in length with an optional insert for a full width bunk. The dinette seats four and can be converted into a bunk. The shower is stand up size; the head comes standard with Y valve plumbing. Cabinets, refrigerator and stove are laid out for maximum space for meal prep and cooking. There is deck carpeting throughout the cabin, plus overhead lights, hanging locker and storage drawers.

Well finished teak is everywhere in the cabin. The head is teak trimmed with formica bulkhead panels. The cabin overhead liner is removable to service lighting and inner hull bulkheads are covered with attractive carpeting to complement the vee berth and dinette upholstery. Ventilation is through an overhead hatch positioned for maximum ventilation



while not interfering with mounting a life raft on the bow deck. Custom rod racks can easily be installed on the overhead to the owner's preferences.

A hinged smoked plexiglass panel covers the electrical system. Twelve and 120 volt breakers, AC master control switch, voltmeters and battery conditions meters are clearly labeled. Servicing the bonded system is simple with color coded wiring and wide open access to the rear of the panel.

The bow deck is wide, uncluttered and surfaced with a non-skid pattern for sure footing while handling anchor or dock lines. A teak trimmed bow pulpit is a handy option for anglers who do a lot of anchoring. The bow is finished off with a welded anodized aluminum railing.

Fishermen need a large cockpit to effectively handle big game like tunas, sharks and marlin. The Topaz 32 has nearly 100 square feet of unobstructed cockpit.

Two shallow steps take the angler from the cockpit to the raised helm station. Wide flat areas on each side of the companionway allow the largest of radars or colorscopes to be mounted. Smaller electronics can be mounted into the sloping panels forward of the companionway hatch. All instruments and gauges are mounted beneath a plexiglass cover for easy viewing. Throttle and shift controls are mounted comfortably and can be handled readily with hands behind the back as when working a big fish or maneuvering at dockside.

The windshield is large and the top frame member is above eye level for unobstructed viewing while under way.

There's a long list of standard items like Hynautic steering, automatic hot and cold pressure water, shore power cord, full International nav lighting, air horns, battery boxes and switches, bilge pumps, engine alarms and hour meters, self-bailing hatches and Coast Guard safety package. Of course, there are numerous custom items that can be ordered, too, through the dealer.

The Topaz 32 boasts a well decorated comfortable cabin, lots of seating space, a stable kindly ride, and huge amounts of fishing room. To top it all off, the boat is beautiful to look at, economical to run and fun to fish from. What else do you need other than a 250 pound bigeye yanking on the end of the line?

SPECIFICATIONS

Length	32'8"
Beam	12'2"
Displacement	1'16,500 pounds
Fuel Capacity	300 gallons
Water Capacity	40 gallons
Power Options:	
Volvo TAMD 60 C	250 HP
Caterpillar 3208T	320 HP
Caterpillar 3208TA	375 HP
J&T, GM6V53	375 HP

Manufactured by: Topaz Marine Corporation, 3 Binnacle Lane, Owings, Maryland 20736, (301) 257-3141.

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

HUMMINBIRD LCR 4000D

by Pete Barrett

Humminbird started a revolution in the technology of fish finders with the introduction of its first LCR series in 1985. For 1986, the line-up of depth finders using the LCD (liquid crystal display) screen has been expanded with two new models: the 8000D and 4000D, for fishermen who work deep water areas like the Great Lakes and the ocean's coastal waters.

The LCR 4000D is of special interest because its compact size makes it easy to install on virtually any boat—from johnboats for bassin' to center consoles for weakfishing to offshore boats looking for bluefish and sharks.

Enclosed in Lexan, the housing is virtually unbreakable, will not corrode and is totally waterproof, so there's no worry about damaging the unit from exposure to rain, salt spray or rough water on windy days, or during washdown back at the dock when the fishing trip is over.

The LCR 4000D display screen measures 2 inches wide by 4 inches high. To the left and right of the window are reference times indicating the several different depth ranges that can be selected by the operator while fishing. The programming panel is located to the right of the screen and uses soft, circular key pads to select the various functions of the 4000D.

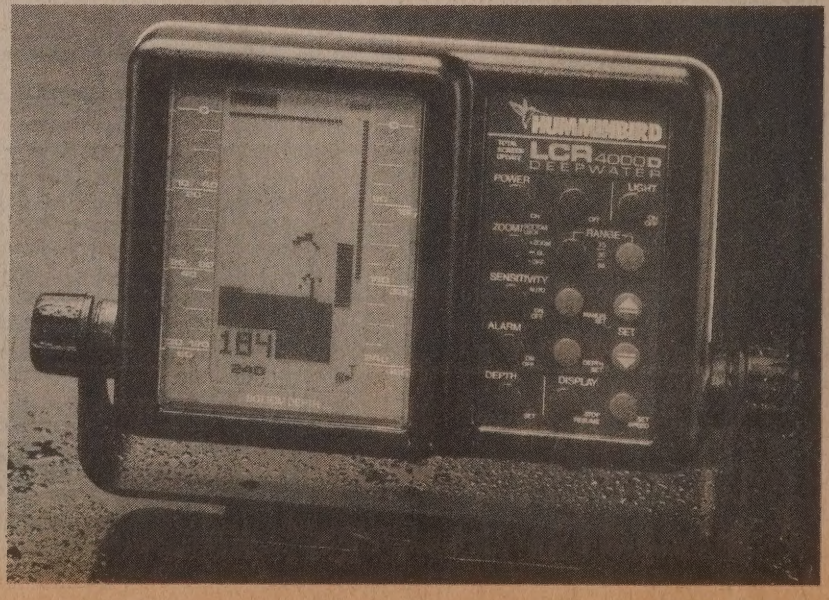
The display screen uses a grid-like pattern of liquid crystals configured in a 30 by 60 pixel matrix. While fishing, the bottom structure plus fish and bait are shown as patterns of dots. The dots are small enough for good definition of the readings and also large enough to be easy to read.

Direct, harsh sunlight on the screen does lower the contrast of the image, yet the dots are still easy to read. A back light is provided for high visibility readings while night fishing.

There are five depth ranges to be selected: 0-30', 0-60', 0-120', 0-240' and 0-480'. The internal micro computer will automatically set the correct scale when the 4000D is first turned on, or the operator can manually program the bottom scale as the bottom depths change while fishing.

The 50 kHz transducer is backd by 200 watts of power. The 43 degree cone angle is a good compromise for high quality readings at shallow and mid-depths while still providing accurate readings in much deeper water. Humminbird makes a bronze through hull style and a transom mounted high speed transducer for smal boats.

In actual operation, the LCR is sim-



ple to use with no complicated maneuvers required. The *Power* button turns the unit on and the *Light* button turns on the back light, if needed. At first start up, the 4000D will automatically select the correct bottom scale and the optimum STC sensitivity control setting. An automatic digital noise rejection filter eliminates or greatly reduces interference from other onboard electronics without reducing the signals from bottom or fish readings.

Different bottom scales are selected by pressing either of the two *Range* buttons to program a lower or higher bottom scale. The scale is digitally displayed at the bottom left of the screen to verify the reading selected.

The STC control is manually adjusted by pressing the *Manual Set* button and then pressing the *Up* or *Down* arrow keys. The STC can be tuned with up to 15 different sensitivity settings which are digitally printed at the top right of the screen. To return to the automatic mode, simply press *Auto.* The word "auto" will be displayed at the top right to verify that the automatic STC mode is in operation.

A *Stop/Resume* button allows the operator to "freeze" the readings for more detailed study. A second press of this button resumes the marking process. An *Alarm* control alerts the operator to fish at a programmed depth or to navigate dangerously shallow water.

The *Set Speed* button increases or reduces the speed at which the image travels across the screen. The minimum speed is 4.2 seconds per line which is very slow to .5 seconds per line. My experience has shown the best readings will change with the water depth. Shallow water readings are better at higher speeds, deep water readings at slower speeds. Mid range speeds are generally best.

A *Zoom* control allows the 4000D to read only portions of the bottom for a closer look at fish located over a wreck or a deep dropoff. The *BL* (bottom lock control) provides better definition and separation of fish located close to the bottom.

The LCR 4000D fills the bill for a compact, accurate fish/depth finder that is easy to use, durable and reliable.

SPECIFICATIONS

Dimensions:
- Height . . . . . 5.75 inches
- Width . . . . . 8.25 inches
- Depth . . . . . 2.0 inches

Weight . . . . . 1.9 pounds
Power Requirements . . . . . 12 volts
Power Output . . . . . 200 watts
Operating Frequency . . . . . 50 KhZ
Cone Angle . . . . . 43 degrees
Matrix . . . . . 30 x 60 pixels
Display Type . . . . . liquid crystal

Manufactured by: Humminbird Division of Techsonic Industries, One Humminbird Lane, Eufaula, Alabama 36027, (205) 687-6613.

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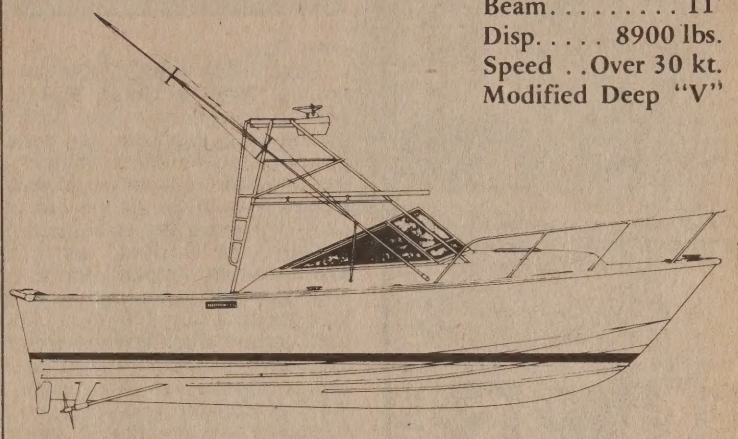

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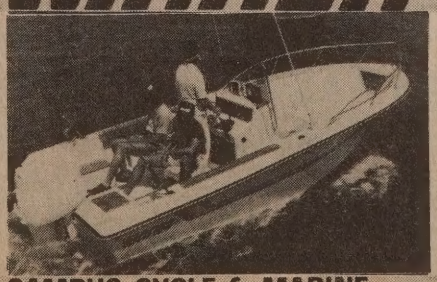

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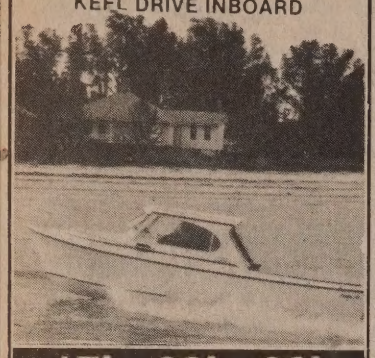

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I spent two weeks each fall wade fishing "wet" in South Florida and carry a needlenose pliers in my hip pocket as a disgorger, line cutter, so the pliers spend six or more hours a day underwater. Until three years ago when my host talked me out of it, I carried a stainless steel model, imported from Pakistan as I recall, which even now looks good as new. I have since gone through three stainless models (all different) imported from Japan which have proven to be expensive disappointments, all developing massive rust films right from the first dunking and requiring daily scrubbing and oil coating just to get them through the trip. What gives? Are some stainless not very stainless? Do you know of a source for a model you or your staff have had better luck with? Thanks. *Bill Klein.*

Dear Bill,

You can bet your last George Washington that there are various grades of stainless. We've tried just about every make and model of pliers that have come down the pike and have had results similar to those you describe.

Saltwater is a tough mistress and not very forgiving to those who ignore her powers. Corrosion, especially in tropical waters, is quick to form on any material that is left untreated after being subjected to saltwater. In the tropics this problem is compounded due to the higher amount of salt that is in the water.

I am sorry, but there is no specific product that I can recommend as being better than another. By the way, what is the name of the company that imported those stainless models from Pakistan. I'd sure like to try them, as every model I have used so far has proven a disappointment.

* * *

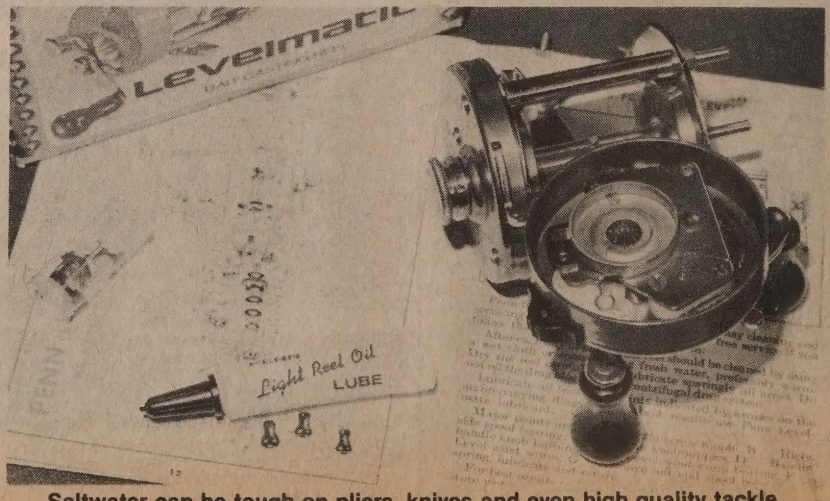
Dear Doc,

I enjoy The Fisherman and especially the columns written by you on catching a specific fish. I also attended several workshops hosted by you. Thanks to your columns and workshops, my fishing catches have improved significantly. The main purpose of this letter was to find out from you if you know where I can buy the kind of wire that is used to make a Maryland commercial crab trap. You know, the type that looks like chicken wire, but the gauge is 3 times as thick. I have tried numerous hardware and fencing stores with no success or even info on where I could buy this wire.

Anthony Sajdak.

Dear Anthony,

No problem. Go back to the hardware store or better yet, visit a store that caters to poultry growers. What you are looking for is "Turkey Wire." *We've used turkey wire for building muskrat traps (the diving type) and for rabbits and squirrels so they could be released (away from the house) unharmed. The turkey wire also makes a dandy crab trap. It has a one inch by*



Saltwater can be tough on pliers, knives and even high quality tackle.

two inch mesh and will trap and hold any legal size blue claw that wanders into the trap seeking an easy meal.

Turkey wire is not effective when attempting to trap green crabs or calico crabs due to the large mesh. For those, you will need to purchase the same type mesh, but in a one inch by one inch size.

We will try to have one of our regular writers tackle the trap building article in the near future. I can't promise an exact date, but will try to have it prior to the upcoming crabbing season.

* * *

Dear Doc,

When I repair rods and rewind guides, what can I use to clean off all the old varnish without damage to the fiberglass? Also, I intend to replace the mono on my cod jigging rod with dacron. What knots would you use from line to terminal tackle? Thank you. *Ralph DeFuria.*

Dear Ralph,

I suggest you try using nail polish remover on the dried varnish. We've been using it for a number of years and find it is one of the quickest varnish removers we've come across. If using nail polish remover doesn't get the job done quickly and cleanly without damaging the rod I'd try a regular varnish remover which is available at most any paint supply store and is very inexpensive.

Do not try scraping the rod blank with a razor blade or the cutting edge of a knife. One slip and you will scratch or cut through the finish and could ruin the blank.

The quickest and easiest method of joining dacron and mono is to tie the bimini (this doubles the dacron) and then unite the dacron and monofilament with a double surgeon's knot. Both knots are close to 100 percent and will not slip or cut when under excessive pressure.

A tip: dacron, with its smaller diameter, does not appear as strong as monofilament and many fishermen go to a heavier weight line in dacron when making the switch from mono to dacron. I do not recommend this procedure, for if you should happen to hang up the rig in a wreck or patch of rough bottom you cannot break the heavy dacron. We've used 40 lb. test mono for most deep water codfishing and when using dacron tried to stick with the same test for the simple reason that we can, if necessary, break 40 lb. test. I am not really sure I have the strength to break 50, 60 or 80 lb. dacron and if I should happen to encounter a snag or have a big codfish run back into the wreck I would not want to sacrifice a lot of line by having to cut it at the reel in order to continue fishing.

The no-stretch factor of dacron line is definitely a plus, but keep in mind that the stronger a line you use, the greater the risk of having it cause you grief when, and if, you hang up on bottom.

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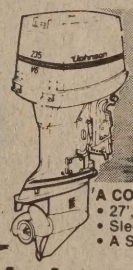

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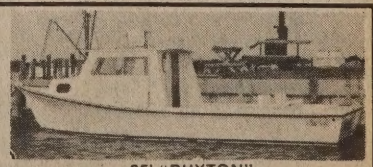

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CAPTREE FLOUNDER DERBY DATES APPROACHING

by William A. Muller

The first of five Fisherman sponsored derbies is slated for April 19 and 20.

In the February 13th issue of The Fisherman, we outlined a schedule of derbies for 1986 that would be bigger and better than any we've run to date. So here's your chance to get involved and for a good cause, too!

You see, the funds that are collected, minus the cash prizes, are put into The Fisherman Sport Fishing Fund. The monies in the fund will be used to support worthwhile projects related to sport fishing. For example, helping create a new artificial reef, gaining additional beach access, repair a broken boat launch ramp, or fund a key research project that finds itself short of cash at a critical time. These are but a few examples of how

This fisherman believes in letting a party boat captain's experience put him into fish. Photo by John Pfalzer.

this fund can help create better fishing opportunities in the years ahead and perhaps protect what we already have.

These are also tournaments and derbies for all of us. An angler doesn't need a big fancy boat, or be a 200 pound lumberjack. All it takes is interest and a $5 entry fee. Anyone can win. Private boat, party boat, surf, pier, bank, or boat livery. It doesn't matter how you fish, but you must be in it to win it!

Cash awards will be made to the top three finishers with the three biggest fish. These prizes are $500 for first place; $250 for second place, and $100 for third place. Then there will be tackle and equipment prizes for the top ten biggest fish. These prizes will be handed out right at the awards ceremony immediately following the competition on Sunday, April 20th at the Captree Boat Basin.

You can register by mail for this derby if you would like, by clipping out, filling out and sending the coupon blank that appears near this article to the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission. The address is on the blank entry coupon. However, this year there will be a special gift for the first 100 people who register in person at either the Captree Bait and Tackle Shop (Captree Boat Basin), or the Jones Beach Bait and Tackle Shop (J.B. Fishing Piers). So if you want that free gift, be one of the first 100 to register in person.

The extra gifts, giveaways and awards at this year's derbies will be possible thanks to the generosity of Corporate Contributors: Stren and Prime Fishing Line, Genesee Brewing Co., Shakespeare Tackle, Daiwa Fishing Tackle Corp., Penn Fishing Tackle, Jet-Aer Corp.-G96, and supporting corporations such as Northville Industries and All Tackle Distributors.

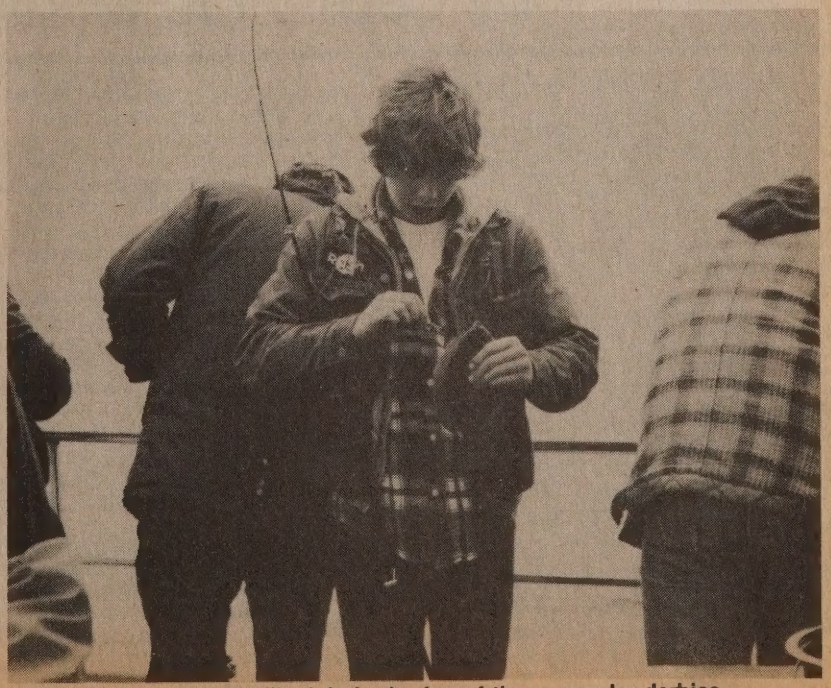
This year's awards ceremonies will be better, too. The event will be held under tents to provide comfort against the weather; there will be free beer and soda to entrants with their entry forms; free Stren line, and a great time too.

These derbies are a chance for the unsung inshore fishermen to get a little recognition, and we're pleased to be able to help organize and provide the opportunity along with Captree-Jones Beach Bait and Tackle, and the Moriches Bay Marine Association, in cooperation with the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission.

Of course we make an effort to get photos at each awards ceremony so that pictures of the winning anglers can appear either on the cover of The Fisherman or inside as part of a follow-up story.

We've had some great times at these derbies, and each year they grow in both size and importance. Be part of it, register today or call for more information at 669-1000 (ask for permits), or LIF at (516) 725-4200.

This fisherman insists a chum pot is a key to catching bigger flounder.



Young and old alike join in the fun of these popular derbies.

FLOUNDER TIPS:

BEYOND THE BASICS

by Capt. Pete Mikoleski

By the time you read this, winter should be just about over. I don't know what your New Year's resolutions were, but mine were as follows: I promised myself that I would A-fish more; B-hunt more; C-write more and D-eat less. I'll be happy with three out of four. I'll leave it up to you to guess which three I'm going to concentrate on!

Item A, when examined more closely should be subtitled "Catch More Fish!" Just because I have chosen to undertake the dubious responsibility of taking people out fishing, doesn't mean I have earned the right to a free lunch! Even though the Coast Guard has seen fit to bestow upon me the right to carry passengers for hire, there was nothing in those training courses about catching fish! So basically, I'm on my own. Although I consider myself and my crew to be professionals, I'd be less than honest with you if I told you we never get skunked. In fact, at times I'm in the same boat as you are. Let me give you a quick example. You're out on a gorgeous, early spring Saturday morning, temperatures in the mid-50s, sun warming your face. You forgot your sunglasses as usual, but not matter, you're with two of your favorite buddies and you're ready to stick it to the local flounder population. But there's a fly in the ointment. The guys in the boat next to you are mohawking the flounder, while you're just managing to pick a few here and there. Sounds familiar doesn't it? With the spring flounder season just about ready to get under way, let's focus on a few indispensable flounder techniques that are a bit beyond the basics. They just might help some of you get off to a better start this season!

Let's start with the subject of anchoring. Everyone knows that most of the time you have to anchor if you want to catch flounder. But how many of you (be honest now) take the time and trouble to do it correctly. Most of the time one anchor will suffice. That is, if your ground tackle is set up correctly. Here on Long Island, any Danforth type anchor should be ideal, whether the bottom structure is composed of mud, sand or rock. You should always use an anchor that is one size larger than that which is recommended for your boat. The reason being that if your boat has a flying bridge or canvas top, it will definitely be affected by the wind. I have a full set of canvas on my boat and if even the slightest breeze catches my canvas top it acts like a sail and blows me all over the place. In addition to having the correct size anchor, it should be fitted with a length of chain between it and the anchor rode (or anchor line). It doesn't really look or sound important, but that length of chain could be the reason you're having a problem holding bottom in the first place. The chain serves to weigh down the shank of your anchor so that the flukes can attack the bottom at the correct angle. This will enable your anchor to dig in and hold

bottom better. With the right chain you'll find that your anchor will probably "catch" faster and you won't have to let out as much anchor line as before. If this enables you to hold bottom with less scope, you won't swing as much, which is bound to increase your catch. Having the right size chain and anchor won't help much if you don't know how to "throw" it out correctly. For lack of a better word, most people say just that. This is definitely the wrong command to give. You should really "drop" the anchor. The biggest anchor and all the chain in the world won't help you if you gallantly stand up on the bow, go into a Ron Guidry wind-up and heave with all your might. If you do it this way, 9 times out of 10, the chain will foul the flukes or wrap around the shank, and this will prevent your anchor from setting properly. The correct way is to glide up a little past the exact spot you want to drop anchor and then do just that. Hold it by the shank, drop it straight down and put your boat in reverse gear for a second or two with no additional throttle. Let out the correct amount of scope and take a quick wrap around a cleat and wait till she "grabs the bottom." Next time you see the guys in the next boat doing a number on the fish while you're just drowning worms, take a close look at his ground tackle. You might see that he's using two anchors. This could definitely make the difference between a fresh flounder dinner and a trip to Arthur Treacher's on a windy day. A good rule of thumb is if you're swaying so much that your sinkers are constantly rolling on the bottom, it's time to drop that second anchor.

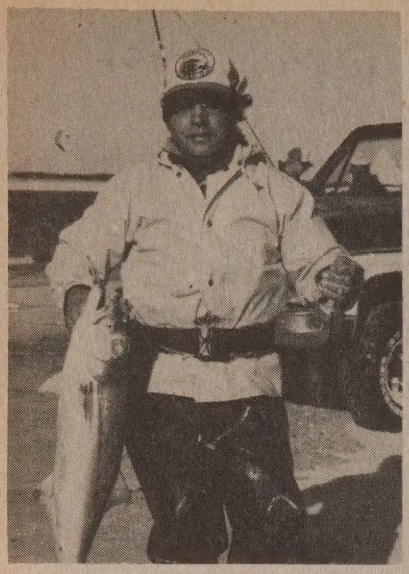
I'm a firm advocate of chumming for flounder, whether it be spring, fall, North or South Shore. Ground-up frozen clam chum is my first choice, with crushed clams and/or mussels a distant second. A bigger than average chum pot will help; in fact, the bigger the better. The bigger the pot the longer and stronger your chum slick will be. There is also another type of chumming technique that I feel has made a big difference in my quest for flounder. I'm talking about using corn as chum. Actually, I use dried corn, the kind that's used for pigeon feed. It's a documented fact that marine biologists have gone on record proving that dried corn does absolutely no harm to the digestive system of flounder. As a matter of fact, the flounder in the experiments thrived on it! So being that as it may, I use it with a clear conscience. Out of curiosity I make a habit of watching how some people chum with corn. Most people just grab a handful now and then and sprinkle it into the water around their lines. The way people are stingy with that corn, you'd think they were chumming with gold dust! If you're gonna do it, do it right. Grab a cup full of corn and start spreading it liberally around the whole boat. I usually take one cup (those plastic coffee mugs with handles are great for this) and spread it in an arc towards the bow, and another cupful and spread it towards the stern. I also do this on both sides of the boat. You have to try and visualize what's going on down there to see that there is a method to my madness. We already know that flounder are fond of the color yellow, right? So what they see if you chum like this is a huge yellow cloud drifting down from beneath your boat. When the inquisitive flounder sees this, he can't resist the urge to investigate. Once he gets closer, he gets a whiff of your chum, and now you have succeeded in exciting two of his senses: namely, sight and smell. When he comes upon your baited hooks he can't resist. So you can see how important it is to use a lot of that corn in order to be successful. This can turn into an expensive proposition, you say. Well, if you visit a pet shop that caters to pigeon fanciers or exotic bird lovers, you'll find that you can get a 50 lb. bag of pigeon feed (dried corn) for about $8. That 50 lb. bag of corn should last for at least 3 or 4 trips at a considerable savings. Generally I take a five gallon bucket full of corn on each trip and usually end up using most of it.

Dried corn kernels make a fine chum and are inexpensive to boot.

All things considered when things get really tough, I find that going to lighter tackle usually gives me an edge. How light is light? That's a relative question but, for example, my flounder meat stick consists of a 6½ foot light graphite rod, Penn 930 Levelmatic bait casting reel and 10 lb. test mono. This does quite well under average conditions when those flatties are in a cooperative mood. But when the flatties are in a finicky mood, I have a neat little ultralight graphite spinning rod that I use with 6 lb. test line. I have yet to find a flounder that can beat 6 lb. test line on a reel with a well maintained drag system. When the going gets rough, the name of the game is presenting the bait more naturally, unencumbered by heavy mono, and sinkers. The thinner mono will always permit you to use a lighter sinker to hold bottom, which, in turn, will present your bait more naturally. If you've got the patience and you are confident in your knot tying ability, try 4 or even 2 lb. test line on ultralight outfit and you'll enjoy every shudder and shake of that flounder's head as if it was a 15 lb. bluefish! Graphite rods are highly recommended if you can justify the extra cost. They are perfect for transforming the light tentative tap of an extra cautious flounder into a jolt of electricity.

Because of my conservative nature, I am usually not the first one to jump on the bandwagon when a new product or technique comes on the scene. Last year about this time a very good friend of mine, Sal Russo, gave me a package of Tru Turn hooks to try during the upcoming campaign. Now in my book Sal is one of those elite anglers who has earned the title of "Master Fisherman." Over the years I have known Sal, I learned one thing, like E.F. Hutton, when Sal speaks, I LISTEN! So as skeptical as I was of those hooks with the funny bend in the shank, I promised to give them a try. I immediately went home, snelled about a half a dozen of them, put them in my tackle box and promptly forgot about them. Then as destiny would have it, I ran out of flounder hooks one day. Since it was still early, and I had finally found a little hole that looked like it would produce, I was reluctant to call it a day. So while rumaging through my tackle box for something that I could use as a flounder hook, I came across the Tru Turn hooks that Sal gave me. Well

(Continued on next page.)



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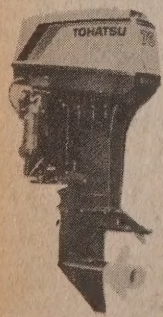

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this seemed like a good time as any to try them out. The few fish I had already caught were nothing spectacular, typical West End spring flounder averaging about a pound apiece. But for some reason that day they were hitting kinda funny. Although I had managed to catch 4 or 5, I lost at least that many because for some reason or another, I couldn't solidly hook 'em. So I gave the shiny new hooks a try. That hole never became a gold mine, but I did manage to deck another 8 or 10 flounder inside of about an hour. What impressed me was, I definitely felt I was able to hook up more solidly with those funny hooks! One demonstration does not a testimonial make, but for the rest of the season I became addicted to those hooks! The bend in the shank works like a cam and actually forces the point of the hook to turn into the fish's mouth! Most of my friends laughed at me when I suggested they try them, but what are you gonna do. I started issuing them to some of my charter customers who didn't have that much bottom fishing experience. To me it seemed like it made a difference. Then one day I put the #766 size 6 Tru Turn hooks to a pretty conclusive test. It was Captain's day on the Regina M and I had my brother Tom and his friend Phil who both mate for me, out for a day's flounder fishing. Tom and I were doing okay, but Phil was having one of those days. No matter what he did, he couldn't hook up. He was getting plenty of hits, he just couldn't sink the hook into the jaw of a flounder for all the tea in China! So out of desperation (he couldn't take the abuse any longer), he gave in and tried my last set of tandem tied Tru Turns. Now keep in Phil's no rookie and quite a good flounder fisherman, I might add. As soon as he tied on those Tru Turns, those flounder started to feel it right where it hurts the most. His hook-up ratio improved dramatically. Now obviously, if there are no fish around, these hooks "ain't gonna help ya!" But since then I've been using them on most of my flounder expeditions with pretty good results.

The last few years I've gotten into the habit of using some added attractors on my flounder rigs. Since the dried corn worked so well for me as chum, I started putting those imitation plastic corn kernels on most of my flounder hooks. Sometimes I use just one; other times two or three. I just slip them on the leader material before I snell my hooks. Since the color yellow is such a good attractor, we've also found those little yellow rubber grub-tails to be quite effective, when added to the shank of the hook, especially when mussels are the hot hook bait!

Last, but not least, quite a few people I know spend a couple of cold winter evenings each year dipping their sinkers in yellow paint. I don't know if this is just a coincidence, but most of these guys eat a lot of flounder fillets.

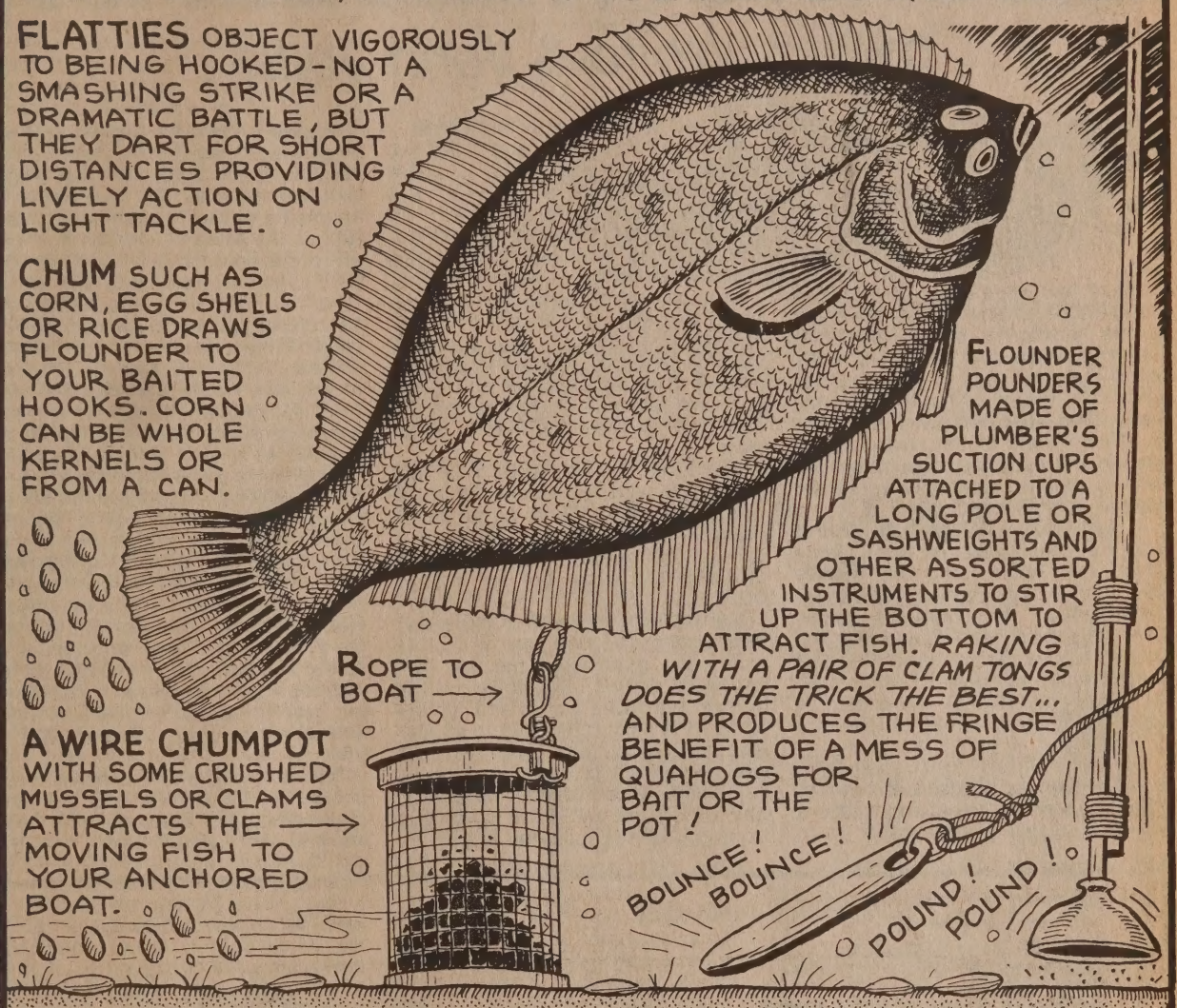
SPRING FLOUNDER

BY FRED GUARDINEER

FLOUNDER START STIRRING FROM THE MUD IN LATE FEBRUARY AND ARE ALWAYS RUNNING BY MID-MARCH. THE SPRING SEASON LASTS THROUGH MAY AND INTO JUNE IN DEEPER WATER. FLOUNDER SPEND THE SUMMER OFFSHORE, RETURNING TO THE BAYS IN OCTOBER FOR A FALL RUN.

FLATTIES OBJECT VIGOROUSLY TO BEING HOOKED - NOT A SMASHING STRIKE OR A DRAMATIC BATTLE, BUT THEY DART FOR SHORT DISTANCES PROVIDING LIVELY ACTION ON LIGHT TACKLE.

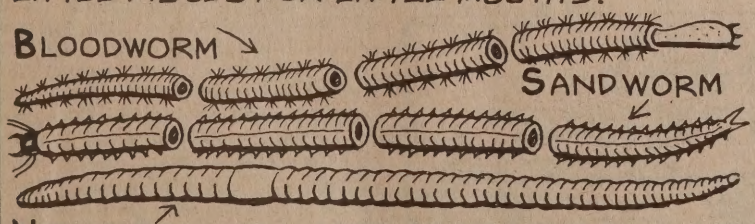
CHUM SUCH AS CORN, EGG SHELLS OR RICE DRAWS FLOUNDER TO YOUR BAITED HOOKS. CORN CAN BE WHOLE KERNELS OR FROM A CAN.



A WIRE CHUMPOT WITH SOME CRUSHED MUSSELS OR CLAMS ATTRACTS THE MOVING FISH TO YOUR ANCHORED BOAT.

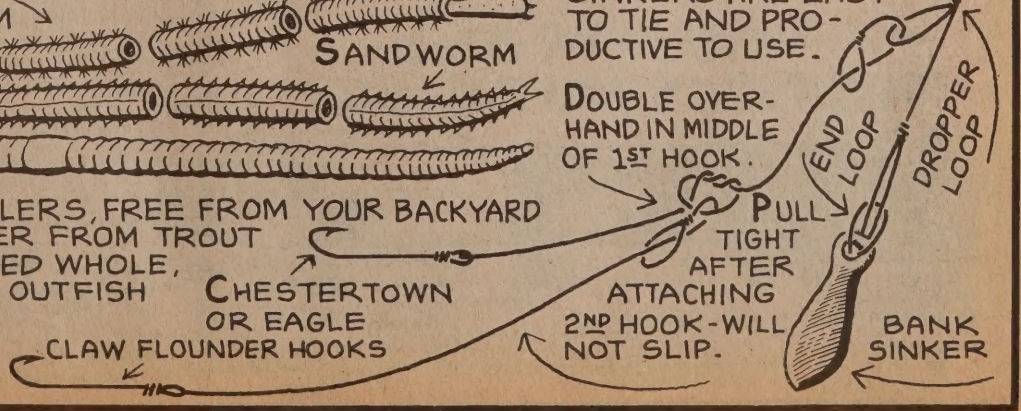
FLOUNDER POUNDERS MADE OF PLUMBER'S SUCTION CUPS ATTACHED TO A LONG POLE OR SASHWEIGHTS AND OTHER ASSORTED INSTRUMENTS TO STIR UP THE BOTTOM TO ATTRACT FISH. *RAKING WITH A PAIR OF CLAM TONGS DOES THE TRICK THE BEST...* AND PRODUCES THE FRINGE BENEFIT OF A MESS OF QUAHOGS FOR BAIT OR THE POT!

BLOODWORMS, SANDWORMS, MUSSELS AND CLAMS ARE THE MOST WIDELY USED BAITS,.. *IN LITTLE PIECES FOR LITTLE MOUTHS.*



NIGHTCRAWLERS, FREE FROM YOUR BACKYARD OR LEFT OVER FROM TROUT FISHING, USED WHOLE, WILL OFTEN OUTFISH THE SEA WORMS.

NO HARDWARE TWO-HOOK FLOUNDER RIGS WITH LIGHT BANK SINKERS ARE EASY TO TIE AND PRODUCTIVE TO USE.


DOUBLE OVERHAND IN MIDDLE OF 1ST HOOK.
END LOOP
DROPPER LOOP
PULL TIGHT AFTER ATTACHING 2ND HOOK - WILL NOT SLIP.
CHESTERTOWN OR EAGLE CLAW FLOUNDER HOOKS
BANK SINKER

★★★ HOW TO SPECIAL ★★★

A BETTER NEEDLEFISH

by Jim White & John Jollie

The Needlefish plug has, over the past few seasons, caused quite a stir in the surf fishing community. No one can dispute the effectiveness of this most unlikely of artificial baits. Striped bass, bluefish and weakfish fall victim to this artificial on every tide.

Every few years a new plug comes along that has the same effectiveness as the Needlefish plug. Sometimes their effectiveness is short lived, but a few of them are as good today as they were when they were first put into the water. The Needlefish probably owes its effectiveness to the recent explosion in the sand eel population. As long as we have sand eels we should have an effective artificial.

A well known striped bass fisherman and conservationist from Maine stated that "after using the Needlefish plug I lost some respect for striped bass." He could not understand why the stripers would take the plug on such a regular basis. The bait has no action to speak of other than the action imparted by the angler. It looks like nothing edible, at least not in my eyes.

We are not going to try to analyze the effectiveness. It is our intention to attempt to show Fisherman readers how to build plugs that stand up to bass and bluefish better than most.

We usually make and use two different sizes. According to water conditions at any given time each has proven to be effective. One is a 7 inch model that weighs about two ounces. The other is 6 inches and weighs about one ounce. Naturally, our design can be modified to make just about any size and weight bait that you need for fishing in your area. We suggest that you make and use the models that we describe and make your adjustments from there. You may feel the need for half a dozen sizes.

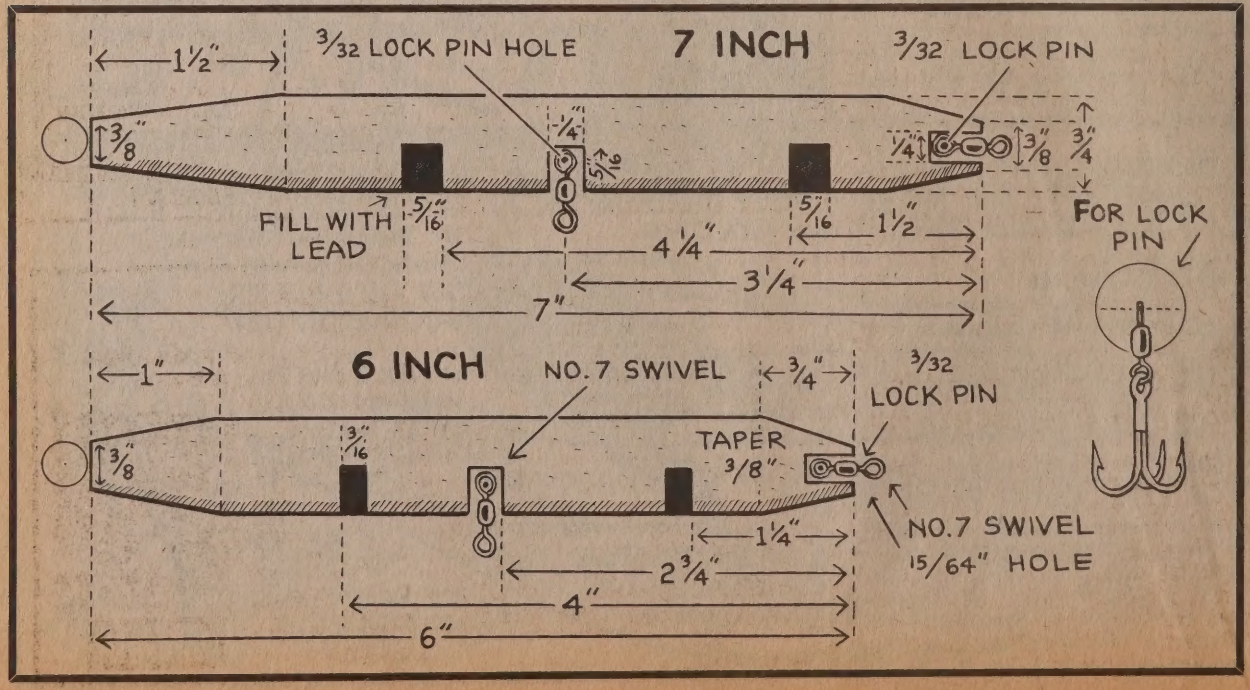
The lures can be made in a very short time with a minimum of tools. The tools needed will be a bench grinder or belt sander, an electric drill or drill press, a tape measure, drill bits and a hot pot for melting lead.

We will first describe the seven inch model. The first step will be to locate and purchase some 3/4 inch **hardwood** dowels. The dowel is sold in most hardware stores and lumber yards. It is most often sold in 48 inch lengths. Be certain that they are hardwood: birch or maple, before you buy them. If you are not sure, ask. The difference could be landing a trophy or landing just half a plug.

Measure and mark and then cut the seven inch lengths of dowel. You should get six plugs from one length of dowel material. The next step is to shape the plugs. Make a pencil mark around the dowel 1½ inches from one end of the dowel, this will be the nose. Mark another pencil line 3/4 inches from the other end; this will be the tail. Using your bench grinder or belt sander shape the nose from the end to the pencil line but make the very end of the nose no thinner than 3/8 inch thick. Do the same to the tail end but again, no thinner than 3/8 inch thick.

Since it is very difficult to make through wire plugs in the home workshop, our plugs are made with pinned barrel swivels. The barrel swivels have proven to be a great help in preventing big fish from getting leverage on a plug and pulling free from the hook or destroying the plug. Many Needlefish available on the market simply have the hook attached to a screw eye that in many cases is not even epoxied into place. It has been our experience that it takes luck to be able to land outsized fish on such a bait.

The next step is to drill holes in the dowel for the swivels and the lock pins. Also drill holes for the lead weight and screw eye for the



nose. Drill a 1/4 inch hole in the center of the tail of the shaped dowel to a depth of 5/16 inches. Drill a 3/32 hole 1/2 inch from the tail end of the dowel and through the swivel hole. Measure 3¼ inches from the tail end and drill another 1/4 inch hole 5/16 inch deep for the front swivel and a 3/32 hole through the middle of the dowel and through the swivel hole for the lock pin.

Next drill a 5/16 hole 5/16 inch deep at 1¼ and 4¼ inches from the tail end of the plug. These holes will be for the lead ballast. Using a hot pot or other device fill these holes with molten lead. After they cool, smooth them flush with the dowel using a file or sand paper. To make the bait less prone to water absorbtion, we soak them in boiled linseed oil for 30 minutes and then allow them to dry for 24 hours before going on to the next step.

We will next install the barrel swivels. You should use a good swivel such as a Crane or a Roscoe in size #1. Insert the swivel into the hole and then insert a 3/4 inch length of non-rusting wire into the lock pin hole and through the eye of the swivel. Do this to all swivel openings.

The final hole to be drilled is in the nose of the plug. This is for the screw eye to which you will be attaching your line. Drill a 3/32 hole about 3/8 inch deep. Insert a heavy wire non-rusting screw eye, coated with epoxy glue, into the hole. Apply a coating of epoxy over the lock pin openings. When this has dried, with a medium sandpaper, sand the epoxy smooth. You are now ready for painting.

Black has been the best color for dark moonless nights. Medium blue has also been the medicine on some nights. For those nights when the moon is shining brightly, white or yellow is the color to go with. Mix the colors or use colors of your own liking. After the paint dries apply a good coat of clear enamel over the whole plug to protect it against damage from rocks and bluefish teeth, both of which will scratch the paint and will quicken the process of water absorption.

Attach a good treble hook such as an Eagle Claw 177ca which are cadmium plated, 4X strong. A size 2/0 is about the right size to use here. Do not try to save money on your hooks. Your plug will only be as good as the hook that is attached to it.

For the six inch model of needlefish, follow the same steps as for the seven inch but use the measurements supplied in the diagram. These plugs when fished with or without a dropper, such as the Red Gill Rascal, at a slow retrieve, at night, are going to catch fish. Avoid using a heavy wire leader but use a heavy mono leader such as 50 lb. test.

In our experience we have found the baits to be effective on calm nights as well as in the white stuff. Our best fish on one of these home-made baits is 53½ lb. beauty that was released after weighing. What a feeling!

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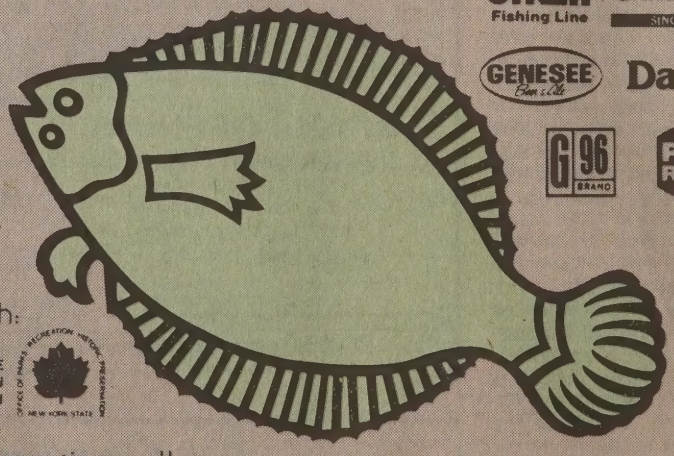

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WATER FRICTION: A REAL DRAG

Part One — *by Bill Shedd*

Research reveals that blue water fishing exerts extreme stress on that all too vital link.

You've never seen a greater day for fishing. Sky, wind and water are perfect. Your tackle is just what you want for the fish you're after and you've rigged it carefully and well. The skipper is an old pro, respectful of your skills and in comfortable harmony with your approach to the sport you both love.

Your lures are out and riding perfectly, arranged just where you want them to be, and it seems fitting and inevitable when a great, dark shape boils to the surface and literally inhales your lure, then strips off 200 yards of line in a heart-stopping run that says "Power! Well-hooked! Record size!"

The fish slows his rush for a moment, then moves off again strongly at a steady 15 knots. You settle in for the excitement of a long and exultant battle, grateful to the gods of all the seas for this chance to pit your skills and stamina against this magnificent creature.

Five seconds later, disappointment hits like a blow to the pit of your stomach. The vibrant rod is dead in your hands, your line trails slackly in the water. Somewhere, a few hundred yards across those taunting whitecaps, your new monofilament snapped for no valid reason you can comprehend.

Every experienced offshore fisherman has suffered through his full and bitter share of such frustration, yet relatively few can give you a true explanation of precisely what happened. Usually the answer is starkly simple: the line snapped because the total accumulated forces bearing on that line had exceeded its strength. But what were those forces?

The ancient banal expressions of "Well, that's fishing," or "You can't catch 'em all," are a poor response to a situation that begs for re-examination, analysis, yes, even research. The best fishermen don't want condolences, they want answers—answers in the form of solid, demonstrable evidence to shed light on the whole spectrum of forces that cause lines to snap. Even beyond that, they want to hone the skills and judgment that will help them to counteract such forces.

The most significant of these "forces" are often ignored or at best underestimated, by many a veteran blue water angler. Not necessarily in order of their importance, they would be:

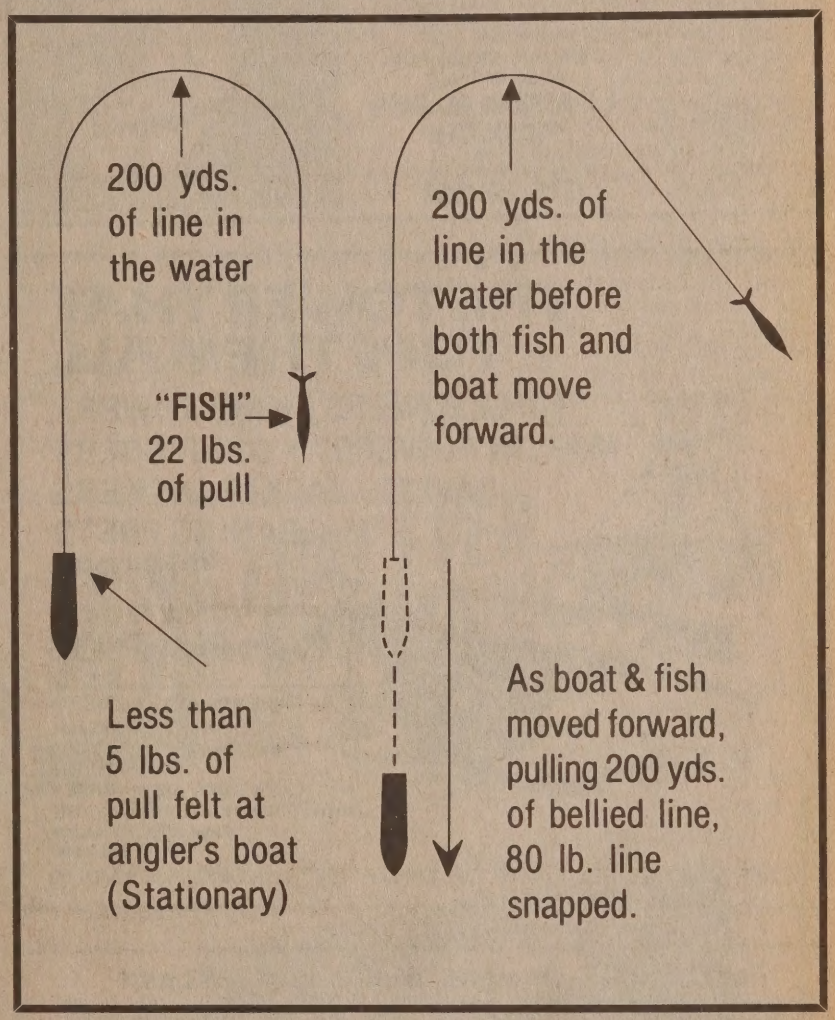
1. The length of your line that is in the water.

2. The speed of your boat.

3. The speed of the hooked fish, and his position in relation to the boat.

4. The amount of line left on your reel; or more accurately, the diameter of the coil of line still on your reel as opposed to its diameter when you preset your drag for that particular line.

Last month, an on-the-water study of these factors produced a valuable new body of knowledge that should dramatically improve your fishing success and illuminate an important aspect of fishing that remains unaccountably obscure. The resources and considerable expertise of Aftco Mfg. Co. Inc., were employed to measure the variety and nature of the actual stresses on lines under typical deep-water fishing conditions. Heading up this research was one of today's leading oceanographers, Aftco's Milton C. Shedd. Milt has been involved in sport fishing, marine re-


200 yds. of line in the water
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200 yds. of line in the water before both fish and boat move forward.
As boat & fish moved forward, pulling 200 yds. of bellied line, 80 lb. line snapped.

(Continued on next page.)

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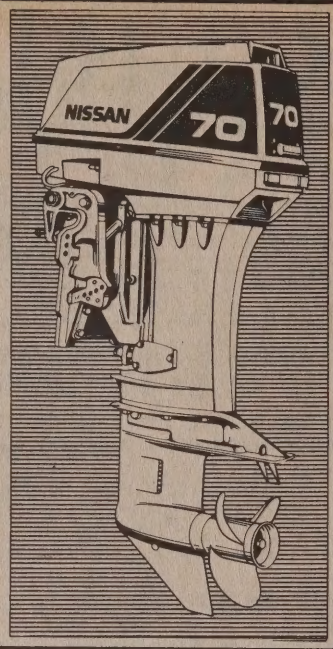

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search and conservation for virtually his entire adult life, and has logged more than 2000 days at sea in the active pursuit and study of game fish and all other aspects of marine life. That's 100 days every year, for 20 years!

He was the co-founder of Sea World, Inc., the world's largest oceanarium complex, and served as its board chairman for 18 years. In 1963, he founded Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute, which has conducted over 90 marine research programs of international scope in the last 7 years. He and his 67 foot research vessel, the "Sea World," are constantly engaged in marine studies for such entities as Scripps, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Navy, the Mexican government, Woods Hole, and leading universities and corporations both here and abroad. He has taken a personal and active part in such diverse studies as the tagging and sonic tracking of swordfish; and various pioneering mariculture projects, such as propagation of white sea bass, halibut and striped bass for release into the ocean.

Veteran anglers Phil Troy and Larry Tunks of Aftco's staff, as well as myself, joined in the testing.

The first series of tests was designed to measure the friction and resultant strain on lines moving through water in a straight path, as when a hooked game fish moves directly away from the boat. The second series of tests measured strain created by the curve or "belly" in a line, caused by a moving fish and/or a moving boat. All tests were repeated a number of times, and 259 separate and rigidly controlled measurements were taken and extrapolated.

Every practical precaution was taken to ensure the integrity of the data gathered. To verify exact boat speeds, timed speed runs were made in two directions through a measured mile. These runs were made with a full tank of fuel and repeated with the tanks virtually empty.

Since the results being sought were predicated upon the exact length of lines in the water, all reels employed were filled with 500 yards of new, top-quality monofilament (Maxima), in the seven popular line weights (6 to 130 lb. test) and with both 20 and 50 lb. test of of Cortland Greenspot Dacron. All lines were marked at every 100 yards with highly visible dental floss. Line winding equipment at Maxima Line Co. was used, and the yard counter checked for accuracy. Once at sea, all lines were positioned to make certain that the full and exact length of line being tested was completely underwater, and not skipping along on the surface. A second boat was used to patrol along the path of the line to confirm this. When necessary, the scale to which the line was attached was held right at water level.

All scales involved were Chatillon 50 lb. spring scales, which were individually checked and recalibrated

against Aftco electronic scales. In addition, exact weights were carried on board to periodically check the scales and recalibrate them, if necessary, during operations. To ensure that the test lines were not weakened at their connections to the scales, a method using surgical tubing and a special clamp was employed.

The study revealed that water friction exerts surprisingly high stress on lines being pulled through the water. For example, if you pull 20 lb. mono at 21 knots, by the time you let out 300 yards, your line will snap from water friction alone, and this is with no lure attached.

It can be summarized that line drag in saltwater is the function of three major variables:

1. The total surface area of all the line that is in the water. This involves the diameter and total length of the line being pulled by the fish.

2. The friction generated by the surface of the line as it moves through the water. Monofilament lines, with smoother surfaces than dacron, generate accordingly less friction.

3. The speed and the direction of its movement as line is pulled through the water. The Aftco charts provide data only on lines moving through the water in a straight, linear path. When a fish begins to pull the line across the water, the side-cutting friction thus generated is dramatically greater.

Aftco's second series of tests provided surprising new information regarding this "side-cutting" friction. Two boats were positioned stern to stern. The angler stood in the lead boat, with line running from his reel, through the guides to a Chatillon spring scale. This scale was then attached to the second boat which acted as the fish.

The second boat, or "fish," moved out 200 yards directly away from the angler's boat, paused to allow the 50 lb. test mono to sink completely, then made a 135 foot turn at a speed of 9 knots. As the "fish" boat began its turn, the angler felt virtually no pressure on his line—less than 5 lbs. of pull. At the same moment, the scale on the "fish" boat registered 22 lbs.! Water friction had created more than four times the line tension, at the fish, than the angler could feel back at the rod. This test was run 3 times with virtually identical results; i.e., 22 lbs., 21 lbs., and 22 lbs. of pull at the "fish."

The same test was repeated with 80 lb. line and a significant variation. The "fish" boat moved out 200 yards directly away from the angler's boat, turned 135 feet and slowly headed back on a course almost parallel to the position of the other boat. Again both boats paused to let the line sink out behind them into a rough "horseshoe" shape. Both boats then moved forward, pulling this bellied line along behind them. Line began screaming off the reel and before there were another 50 yards in the water, and by the time both boats had reached approximately 18 knots, the line snapped. The "side-cutting" water friction had increased so quickly that the 50 lb. Chatilllon scale bottomed out and broke. The line, subjected to pressure substantially in excess of 80 lbs., snapped at the scale.

This test duplicates a situation commonly occurring when a marlin moves off with your lure. Your line is peeling rapidly off your reel, perhaps still pulling against your original preset drag, and it's going into the water directly behind the boat. You assume that the fish is somewhere out behind you, when suddenly a hooked marlin hurtles into the sky perhaps 100 yards away and well off to the side of the boat. The captain knows it is your fish, but if he heads the boat directly towards it, disaster is almost inevitable. When the belly of line is big enough, and the boat and fish move fast enough, the line will surely snap.

Obviously, in this approximate pattern, the variables are infinite, including such factors as the amount of line in the water, the size and speed of the fish and the speed of the boat; and their speeds relative to each other as well as their relative positions. Nevertheless, the lesson here is clear: you MUST back off your drag instantly. And your boat must FOLLOW the line directly to the fish, moving to eliminate the belly in the line as quickly as possible. This is vital: the boat must follow the line, not the fish!

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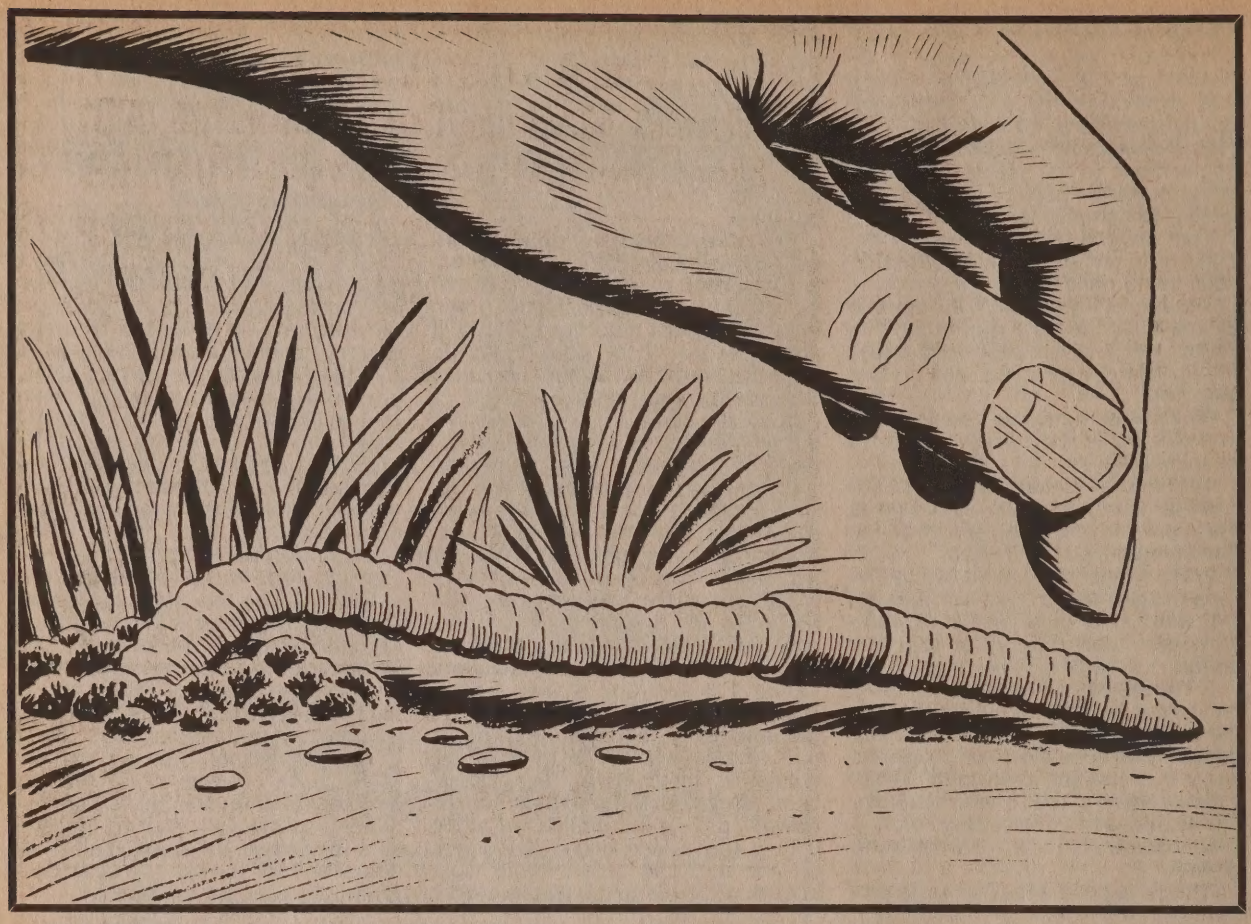

STALKING & STORING NIGHT CRAWLERS

by R.P. MacIntyre

Well, here it is March. It only took a year to get here and will only take six months to get through. It's the month of change and anticipation, more so than any other in the spring. Like it or not, trout season is a month away and flounder aren't quite a sure thing yet.

If you live much north of Hartford, you may have a week or two to wait, but, have you checked your lawn for signs of night crawler activity? I did, recently and picked up 75 to 80 fat and lively crawlers. Don't worry, they'll keep.

Just get yourself a cheap styrofoam picnic cooler (the bigger, the better). This one-quarter of a magic formula. Now fill to the top with last year's leaves. (Oak are **not** as good as most others, too much acid in them). I use straight maple, or in a pinch, willow and maple. It you do **not** use a poison on your lawn, rake up all the dead grass you can and add it to the leaves. Use NO dirt at all! Try to get moist leaves or moisten them, but no puddles of water. Damp is fine. Worms/crawlers don't eat dirt. They pass it through their body and digest organic matter that is mixed in. You feed them straight organic matter and they really get fat and happy. They also produce an incredibly rich soil that can be used as a top dressing for vegetables plants or simply spread on the lawn.

Some folks feed their crawlers coffee grounds (used) and corn meal. My advice is DON'T; they have plenty to eat. Coffee grounds and corn meal sometimes sours and kills worms.

Punch a dozen or so pencil sized holes in the top lid to allow air to circulate. If you have a cellar that stays cool (60 degree or so) put the cooler(s) in the coolest spot, usually against a north wall. Check on them once a week and keep the leaves moist. You may not have to add water for a long time unless you've punched too many holes in the top. Don't soak them.

The cooler can also be sunk in the ground in the shade and covered with a bale of hay. I keep 3 crawler condos in my cellar and usually have them the year-round, depending on how many I capture in the fall.

A few years ago, when I was a wet behind the ears kids (late 30s, early 40s) we use to walk behind the plow in the early spring and pick up worms, crawlers and an occasional arrowhead the old sod buster turned up. A few rows and we had enough for all summer, but we never kept them indoors, just in a big barrel full of chaff and stable sweepings (not manure). They thrived in the cool of the barn. We also dug manure worms whenever we felt we needed them. The pile never froze and was always there for resupply.

I remember how we read a sure-fire method of getting crawlers in

broad daylight, without digging. Mix 2 tablespoons dry mustard with a gallon of lukewarm water and pour it down some worm holes. The crawlers and worms exploded from the ground after 1 to 2 minutes, like the devil itself was on their tails. A careful wash in plain water and they were almost as good as new. Worms breathe through their skin and that stuff must have been like getting red pepper in your eyes.

Being a member of the bifocal set has forced me to use a magnifying glass (I use an optivisor) to do many things most folks take for granted, from tying flies to carving ducks to reloading ammo. It almost put me clean out of the night crawler collecting game, depriving me of one of the first rites of spring. When I tried to sneak along in the crawler picker's position, I had to hold my chin parallel to the ground so my eyes were focused through the bottom half of my glasses. Ten worms later, I had to stop. My neck felt as though it were broken and I was missing every other worm.

In desperation I rolled some tissue paper around the nose piece of my glasses. This raised them up so I was looking through them while my head was at a much more comfortable angle. That made the spring ritual almost fun again.

Incidentally, there are always a few newcomers who never plucked a fast retreating crawler from the damp ground at night. Here's how I do it: Use a two cell regular (not extra bright) flashlight. Tape or tie red cellophane over the lens. worms are much less sensitive to the red spectrum of light. Move silently; no heavy footfalls. I swear some nights, heavy breathing puts them down; other nights they are all the way out and ready for plucking. Don't turn on the barn light and expect Mr/Mrs Crawler to be lying around waiting to be collected.

I mentioned flounder in the beginning of this article. Most folks don't realize it, but night crawlers make fine bait for them. They sometimes seem to actually prefer them to sand worms or mussels. We generally try all three, just to be sure, but have gone with crawlers many times and made out just fine.

Don't expect your bait to remain lively too long in saltwater; it won't. We pinch each crawler in half and bait our two hook rigs after each fish or every 10 to 15 minutes. In areas where there is a lot of freshwater mixed into the salt, such as river mouths, they may last a little longer.

Heat is a major enemy of all worms. They can take freezing temperatures, but anything over 60 degrees spells doom. Keep them out of the sun, even in the early spring.

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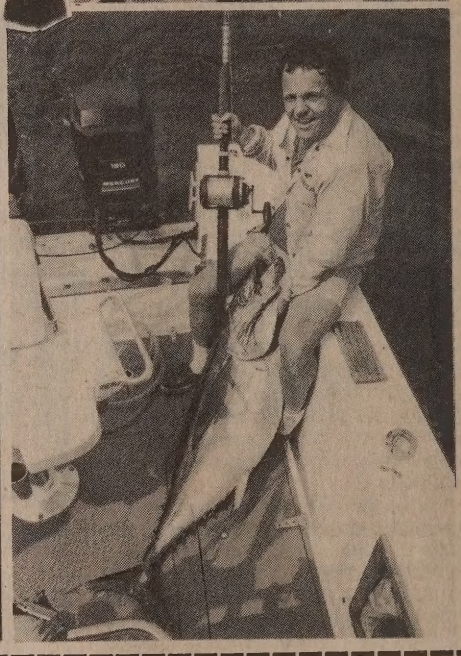

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IMPROVE YOUR BAITCASTING SKILLS

by Rex Gerlach

Newcomers to the baitcasting scene, as well as veteran casters, will benefit from this expert's advice.

Baitcasting is a lot like hitting a golf ball, in certain respects. How well a person is able to perform in either skill depends on selecting matched and balanced equipment and in using it **under control**; predictable, consistent control. This article deals with how to achieve and maintain that sort of control over a level-wind baitcasting outfit from cast to cast, season after season.

Baitcasting reel control starts the minute you take a new level-wind reel out of the box and finish reading the owner's manual. Both the way to lubricate the reel and how you adjust it for casting influence your ability to achieve the casting ease and accuracy inherent to that particular reel.

Most present day baitcasting reels are manufactured overseas. They're shipped to the U.S. in oceangoing vessels. As a result, their arrival here in good condition internally, following prolonged exposure to salty marine air, depends on the metal parts inside the reel being coated with protective kinds of lubricants, some of which are not really suitable for assuring the reel's best performance while fishing.

As a result, the first thing to do after purchasing a new baitcasting reel and learning how it works is to remove all factory applied lubricants and replace them with the correct ones for fishing operation.

Because some baitcasting reels contain over 60 parts, re-assembling a completely dismantled reel may be beyond the experience of the beginning baitcaster. For some, it's best to have this done initially by an experienced reel service technician. More experienced tackle tinkerers should have little difficulty in removing factory applied lubricants with a non-flammable solvent, then reapplying light to medium grade grease sparingly to the gears, light to medium grade oil to the shafts and other working parts, and a protective spray, such as WD-40, to non-working parts needing protection from the elements. To the experienced tackle buff, the exploded views of the reel provided on the parts list are usually sufficient to assure getting all those parts back where they belong.

Aside from periodic later cleanings, about all that will be required of the reel that's maintained in fairly clean condition during freshwater use is a single drop of light oil on the spool shaft ends and the level wind worm track. Baitcasting reels used in saltwater require more involved maintenance, such as washing in fresh water after each use and re-lubrication on a more frequent basis.

The increasing use of baitcasting gear in saltwater, has resulted in a large number of converts to this efficient gear.

As for the grades of lubricants to use, take a tip from your auto. The colder the temperatures under which the reel is used, the lighter the grades of oils and greases that will be needed to assure satisfactory performance.

Once the reel has been properly lubricated, spool it with line to within about 1/8 inch of the spool tip, attach the reel to the rod and thread the line through the guides, attaching a practice plug of about the same weight you use most often while fishing. We are going to make some initial adjustments.

If the reel has no magnetic anti-backlash controls, but is equipped with centrifugal brake collars (these are little plastic or fiber collars that ride on shafts perpendicular to and attached to one end of the spool shaft), adjust the spool tensioning knob (usually located under the star drag on the handle side) so that when the reel is placed in "free spool" the plug falls to the ground under control, slowly if you are a beginning caster, faster if you're an expert. **Never** loosen the spool tension so much that there is "slop" or "play" between the ends of the spool shaft and the shims against which they ride. This holds true for mag reels as well.

(Continued on next page.)

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When fishing, you'll need to re-adjust spool tensioning to the same lure drop-rate whenever you change to a greatly lighter or heavier weight of lure, especially if you are a tyro caster. On reels equipped with centrifugal braking collars, use the smaller, lighter ones for heavier weights of lures and the larger, heavier collars for very light weight lures.

On a magnetically controlled reel, set the adjustment dial at the lowest setting you can and still prevent spool overrun or backlashing. This lighter mag-setting permits easier and longer casting, once you've trained your thumb to stop the spool from turning the instant the lure hits the water.

One of the best ways to achieve consistency in baitcasting is to have all your baitcasting reels the same make and model. That is because there is less of a performance variation between identical reels than between reels of various manufacture. Those employing three or four rigged reels in a bass boat will find themselves spending more time fishing productively and less time adjusting the controls by following this bass pro tactic of eliminating distractions to the fishing as far as humanly possible.

How you grip the rod handle and place your thumb on the spool to feather the cast also affects casting consistency and accuracy. The actual grip should be firm enough to prevent the handle from turning in your hand, but loose enough to permit freedom in the wrist during casting.

The casting hand thumb should be placed in such a way that it always maintains a fixed point of reference to the reel spool—the same point of reference. The spooled line does not afford such a point, in that the size of the spooled line core diminishes rapidly as the lure pulls line from the spool. Here we can take a helpful hint from tournament accuracy casters, who often place the thumb at the juncture between the line and lower lip of the spool, when the reel is held with the handles straight up (or straight down, in the case of a lefty caster).

This provides you with the never-changing point of feel-reference needed to accurately feather the whirring spool on cast after cast throughout a day of fishing. After your thumb has become "educated" to this unchanging feel position, you'll notice a marked improvement in casting **distance** precision, with little doubt.

Since baitcasting essentially is a wrist movement in which the rod is snapped quickly back to load it with the weight of the lure, then whipped forward smartly using a short stroke that ends abruptly well over the intended target area in the water, a wrist position that emphasizes freedom of movement is highly desirable, quite obviously.

The ideal position for this type of wrist movement while holding a bait-

casting outfit is with back of the hand straight up, like it would be with your palm resting flat on a table top. Gripping the rod with the back of the hand up, positions the reel handle straight up for the right-hander using a right-hand drive reel. Since the wrist cannot easily wander from side to side in this position, accuracy is also improved.

This position also puts your forearm in an alignment making it easy to sight along the rod shaft towards the target area. If you've ever wondered how trick casters can so unerringly drop a plug in a teacup-sized target area, part of their success lies in being able to line up each cast accurately. Here's the trick.

First, aim your **nose** directly at your intended spot on the water. Keep both eyes open and don't squint like you need to when sighting a rifle. Position the held rod and reel in front of your body with your forearm and upper arm relaxed, your elbow resting lightly on your abdomen, your grip firm, and your eyes directly on the spot you want the lure to land. Deliver both the backcast and forward casting strokes in direct line with your nose. This also helps prevent you from whipping the rod back too far, for if you do, you'll surely whack the end of your nose with the rod shaft! And that smarts!

If you're a low handicap golfer, you'll quickly recognize the value of this next tip. It offers the same accuracy-producing directional path to a casting rod tip as it does to a swung golf club. In golf, it's called the "forward press." In casting, it is simply a subtle dipping of the rod tip prior to starting the backcast stroke. Both influence your ability to get the shaft started into the backcast (backswing) in the precise direction you want the shaft to travel on the forward cast (downswing). Line the rod tip up over the target. Dip the rod tip gently and whip it smoothly into the backcast stroke. Done correctly, the rod tip will whip back to the point at which you release the lure along the very same path. Since I'm only an experienced caster, not a specialist in anatomy or psychology, please do not ask me the reason why. For fishing, it suffices to know that the procedure works well, more often than not.

How you **look** at the target area is also important for accurate casting. It involves achieving a brief moment of pure concentration, during which everything but the target is mentally and visually excluded. The trick is to focus your eyes sharply on the target, rather than the rod tip. Look at it. Point your nose at it. Focus clearly on it. And say to yourself: "Lure...you're gonna land—right **there!**" This visual and mental process is similar to the one involved in "instinct" shooting with a shotgun, in which one's entire concentration focuses on the moving bird or clay target, and with both eyes fully open, no true attempt at aiming is made. One's complete concentration is focused on the target in both instances.

The final essential to achieving consistent accuracy while baitcasting is to **practice** regularly, summer and winter. Ten to 15 minutes tossing a practice plug at a coffee can in the back yard or basement recreation room will undoubtedly produce noticeable improvements in your casting accuracy, provided you practice the little skills discussed previously.

Here, it is important to practice enough to keep your timing and alignment sharp, but not so much as to fatigue your hand, wrist or forearm. For the beginner, 10 to 15 minutes of practice is about all the hand and wrist can cope with. As one progresses in coordination and acquires greater hand strength from squeezing and relaxing the grip on the rod handle, longer practice sessions up to 45 minutes can be enjoyed.

By paying attention to these little things that make such big differences in successful baitcasting, it's possible to get both the very best performance from this highly versatile and accurate method of fishing, and from one's inherent fisherman's desire to drop each cast precisely where you want 'em to. From a practical point of view, these little tricks tend to make what is perceived by many to be the most difficult form of casting—a piece of cake.

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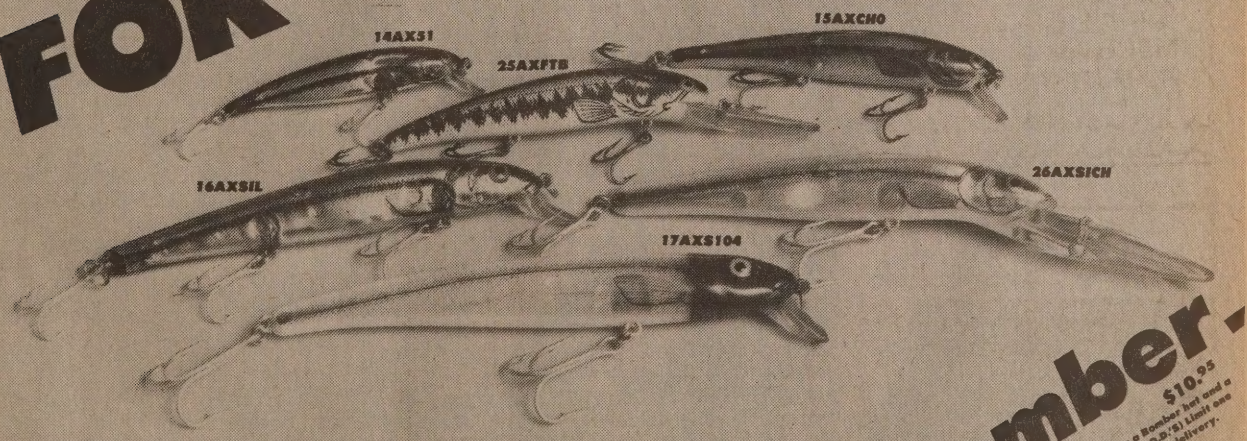

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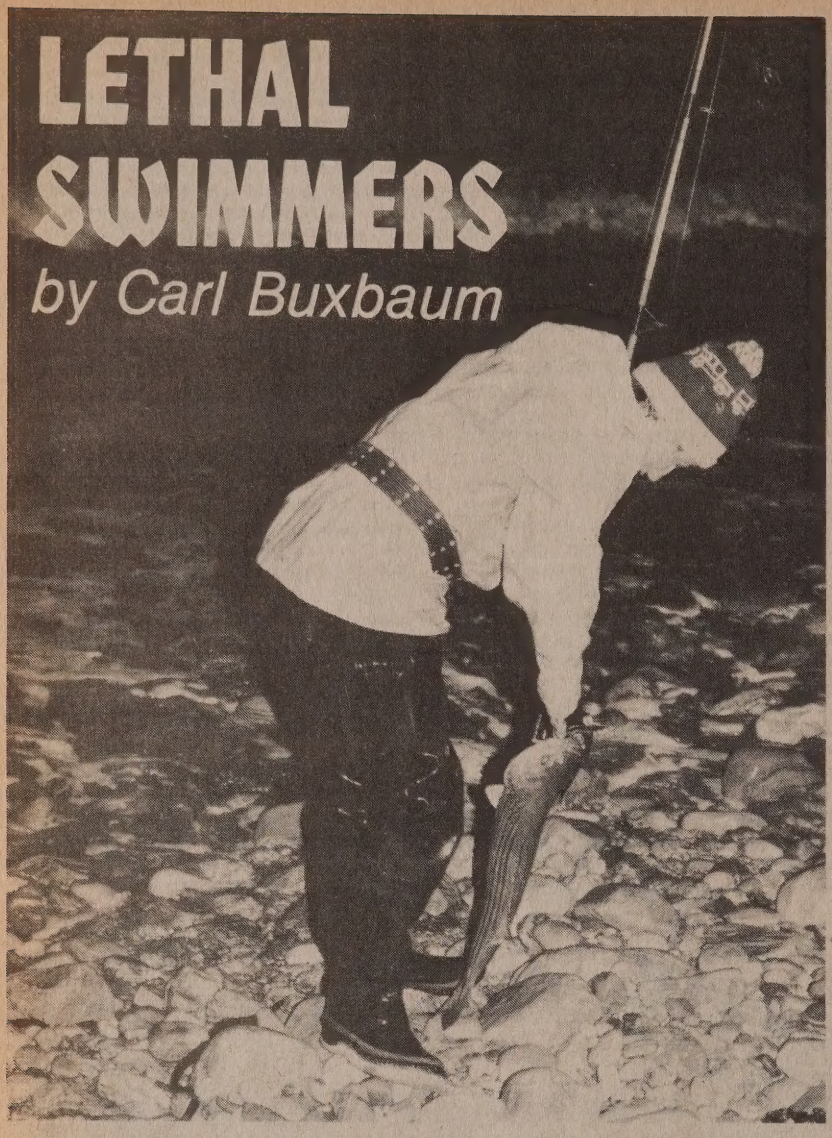
LETHAL SWIMMERS

by Carl Buxbaum



A bone-chilling breeze swept off the moonlit sea, so numbing my fingers that I missed the line pick-up for the manual reel. The Bomber floated dead, way downtide, before the drooping strand of mono could be slipped over the roller. I cranked like mad to recover slack, and finally, there was resistance. Wham—the plug got blasted instantly. Looking at the battered minnow imitation, while unhooking a striper in the high teens, I thought in wonder, "What a seductive Jezebel! One wiggle of its behind, and bass can't resist..." Well, swimming plugs aren't really sexy, but they sure turn on the predatory kill instinct.

They do it day after day, season after season; and surfcasters ought to remember that (no matter what the new hot lure is) fad and fashion shouldn't turn their backs on these old reliables. I'm still convinced that in expert hands, under the right conditions, swimming plugs will usually outfish other offerings in side-by-side competition.

It's not clear why they work so well, but there are some reasonable explanations. They resemble a variety of baitfish and the inability to distinguish them from the real thing may account for the fact that game fish don't seem to wise up and quit hitting them by the end of the season. Of course, no plug is identical to the real thing. The shade of difference, though, makes swimmers stand out from a school of prey or look like strays that couldn't keep up with the gang, and because they swim off key, predators zero in on them as crippled, vulnerable, easy targets.

One day, I tried an experiment on the down side of a bluefish blitz. Casters were lined up elbow to elbow on a sand bar. Most were dragging tin and tube combos along the bottom, a method that was fantastic while the choppers were in thick. A few guys baited up with live sand eels, which were swarming around our ankles only minutes before. Here and there another blue was taken, but I got a hit on nearly every cast and managed to cull a rogue tiderunner out of the marauding blues. How? By letting a 7 inch Rebel sinker drop to the bottom and retrieving it so slowly that I barely felt anything at the end of the line. The fish clearly wanted something advancing very slowly, in combination with lots of motion. And nothing, at a crawling pace, flutters quite as nicely as a swimming plug.

Swimmers really come into their own after dark, when the mix of slowness and sickly wiggle is the key to success. In a running tide, especially if there aren't other fishermen around with whom to tangle lines, it sometimes pays to let the plug swing downtide until parallel to shore before starting the retrieve. The tide alone activates the lure, and you've attained the slowest pace possible.

Slowness is the fundamental but not the only trick to using swimming plugs. Running depth, often neglected, plays an important and sometimes critical part.

Some nights fish seem to be turned on by metal lipped plugs, like the Dannys or Atoms, or selected slim minnows, including Rapalas, Hellcats, and Redfins; right out of the box. Yet they ignore Bombers, loaded Redfins, Rebels or Nils Masters. Observing these plugs in the water provides a clue to what's going on. The ones that are working are high riders—they're very buoyant and stay right in the surface film, with their backs out of the water during a creeping waddle. At such times your quarry is feeding on the surface, looking up for action and a caster will often find his plug snatched the instant it splashes down.

When loaded slim minnow imitations or slightly deeper running Bombers and Rebels seem to be the ticket, you can bet the gamesters are feeding just below the surface—and that's where alert anglers will put their efforts. All the high riders can be made to run subsurface by picking up the speed a bit, but that makes some of them wobble too widly and may turn fish off, especially in combination with the faster retrieve. Metal lipped swimmers can be made to run deeper by bending the diving plane down slightly, but be careful not to twist it out of shape. A plug with a distorted lip won't swim true. Some anglers bend up the line tie loop as an alternative, to avoid this problem. Yet I've found that method to cause similar trouble, though the error is more easily corrected. The safest bet is to use loaded plugs or those that track deeper, on their own.

Sometimes the best action's at mid-depths, say 3 or more feet down. A variety of diving minnow plugs, characterized by long and shallow sloping lips, is on the market (more of them every year), but divers haven't drawn much interest among local surf men. Still, I've done all right with some of these, even though they're a bit of a pain. The longer lips make already short casting plugs into super short casters by increasing wind resistance; they tend to seek and harvest weeds with vengeance; and as they're moved into the shallows, they hang bottom. Small and medium

sized Rapala Magnums as well as the older Nils Masters, however, seem to get down well enough and minimize such problems. Sinking Rebels and Redfins are good alternatives. Just start retrieving soon after they hit the water, before reaching bottom, and keep 'em coming at a steady pace. Experiment with different depths by varying drop times.

Obviously, sinkers are best for bottom feeding fish. In this case, delay cranking the reel until the plug's had time to settle all the way. This period can be surprisingly long in a ripping tide; so, be patient. If you cast uptide at a quartering angle, the plug will get down more quickly and remain in the strike zone longer, because the tide won't tug the line and your swimmer with it, in a downtide sweep. Such lateral pressure has the same effect as an instant rapid retrieve which prevents the lure from sinking.

A good deal of hidden feeding goes on near bottom. Everyone who slings tins and bucktails knows it and that's partly the reason some anglers have been slaughtering stripers with sinking Needlefish. But for some reason few casters think deep when throwing swimmers. Don't neglect sinkers—stuff a couple in the plug bag for those nights when nothing seems to work.

Though sinkers generally cast a bit further than unweighted swimmers, none of these lures will take a distance contest. Their performance in wind is plain miserable. It's like attempting a killing, slam shot in badminton. The shuttle cock is whacked with all the power you can muster; it takes off, speeds ten feet and stops short—falling as if the rip cord on a parachute were pulled. In answer to the question, what is the most consistently reliable lure in the surfcaster's arsenal—any day, any night, any season, any year? Without hesitation, I'd say a slim 4½ to 5½ inch swimming minnow plug, but I only get to use the darn things on calm nights. Next best are the 6 and 7 inchers. They have a bit more heft, but also more mass to float on the wind—so they fly somewhat further, but not far.

To do your best with these plugs, use light lines and fast tipped rods. Light line, say 10 or 12 lb. test (15 is getting heavy), places less drag on an offering headed seaward and has less wind resistant density itself. The result is a longer cast. The fast tipped rod helps flip out light lures and is a good shock absorber that protects fragile line from the traumatic tugs and surges of big fish—should you get real lucky.

It's possible to get an additional couple of yards out of a cast by violating the conventional wisdom about matched tackle. The fact of the matter is that line spills off a large diameter spool, in loose loops, more easily than from a small one that coils it in tight rings. So, even with a soft stick and fairly flimsy 12 lb. line, I go with a big reel, like the Penn 706Z.

Despite these adaptations, you'll still run into wind conditions that frustrate the best casting efforts. Fish feeding barely out of range at those times, will taunt you into inching forward until water pours down your waders—having started at the neck of the foul weather top. There's one swimmer to help in those situations. The bottle plug, or casting swimmer. Its aerodynamic design and balance provide superior reach. The two ounce version can still be handled by a soft tipped rod and 12 lb. line. So, take a couple along for added security. They work well on the surface and perhaps better in subsurface presentations. But you can't have everything, and you'll never get one deep without an anchor.

The 3 ounce bottle plug is the only swimmer for really windy conditions and crashing waves. You'll have to switch to beefy tackle to throw them and heavier line to avoid snapping them off on energetic casts. This sort of equipment is also required for metal lipped swimmers, especially the husky ones, like the Atom 40 or monster Goo Goo Eyes and Dannys. Unless the wind's behind you, though, they'll still fall short.

There are tricks and limitations to swimming plugs, yet they remain special because game fish, of all sorts, find their waddling action hard to resist. Next time you're out there working the new hot lure, along with dozens of other casters, do yourself a favor: snap on a swimmer to suit the situation, and see who turns up as high hook.

Proven swimmers, from top: Bomber, sinking Rebel, jointed Redfin, 2 ounce Gibbs bottle plug, and a very bassy monster of a Danny plug.

A GLIMPSE BACK

by Matt Ahern

First of all, I've got to admit something. I'm lazy. Not as a general rule, though. But today I admit I am, which, in this case, makes it particularly tough, for I must come up with something for this week's issue. Ah, me.

Tell you what: will you settle for an edited version of an article I wrote some four/five years ago about those early days of my fishing life...say 55/60 years ago? I hope so, for reader demand is great for repeats on this type of article. And besides, it's easier on old Matt's brain power.

After having received thousands of letters over the years from Fisherman readers, I can often detect where a particular letter is headed before I finish the first paragraph. Sort of a sixth sense has developed, I suppose. However, until I began writing an occasional old-timer story about my boyhood fishing exploits in the so long ago, most correspondence contained requests for information on previous articles, questions on various aspects of fishing, and so forth.

But now a new ball game has been created. Most readers who refer to these old-time stories are out and out mesmerized by all the good fishing which existed in the not too long ago—say 50 years.

Now, I know what you're thinking, for to some 50 years seems as distant as cave man days—but really they aren't. It's a trick of Nature, for surely when one realizes he's actually fished 50 years (or more), the time span is as nothing. One feels the same as ever (providing, of course, he's led a sensible life), one is as agile as ever, give or take a twinge or two, and if he's lucky, his memory is still hitting on all eight. I consider this to be Nature's pay off to those of us who have heeded and felt her tuggings at our heart strings as we gazed upon the Almighty's great outdoors. (It seems the older I become, the preachier I become. My apologies.)

But anyway, several weeks ago I received a letter from a Brooklyn reader which actually led into this article. I'd like to tell you this reader's name, but since I failed to obtain an okay to do so, we'll call him Joe.

Joe wanted to know what it was like for a kid to have lived in Brooklyn before the Great Depression. He'd heard the expression: "The Roaring Twenties," and all that—but did they really roar? How good was the fishing during those days?

Well, let's see.

I was a teenager in 1927 (13) at the time I want to tell you about. The Bad Times weren't to begin for three years, so things were swinging along pretty well for all concerned. A family man who worked steady (and there was plenty of work then) could earn the princely sum of $25/$30 a week for six days of labor. This was sufficient for all the necessities of life: rent, food, recreation and so on. Gasoline was ten cents a gallon (it was to become less in three years); a large loaf of bread was five cents (later, it would sell at two loaves for a nickel); and a quart of milk (bottle) was nine cents at the grocery store, and eleven cents delivered to your doorstep.

And the fishing? Ah! The fishing was great!

Then, as now, much of my fishing was done aboard party boats. When compared to today, those boats were strictly slow boats to China. But the fishing was so good then it mattered not if it took longer than it does now to arrive at many of the areas I still fish today. Those fish seemed always willing to jump into our old-time butter tubs. So if we lost an hour's travel time, as compared to today, it meant nothing.

Most of my party boat fishing those days was done off the New Jersey Coast, with Sea Bright, its offshore areas and Sandy Hook getting the most play. The Hook was THE place for fluke! i don't care what I'm told today, there will never be a fluke-producing area as great as Sandy Hook was up until World War II.

Thousands upon thousands of us sinker bouncers jigged there for fluke each summer, and when you figure each of us fishermen were good for 30 or 40 fluke on an average day and up to 60 on an extra good day, the amount of fluke we fellows lifted over the rail every summer boggles the mind! And this went on for years before my time. Quite unbelievable, I know—but true, nevertheless. (Fluke fishing didn't begin to deteriorate until the commercial fishermen of that time discovered that fluke wintered and **spawned** far offshore on the Continental Shelf. When that discovery was made, it was the beginning of the end of fine fluke fishing.)

Ling and whiting fishing was always done around the old Ambrose Lightship Grounds. There was no need to fish elsewhere. We filled sacks and sacks with no strain or pain.

Sea bass and porgies could always be depended upon. Any wreck or rock pile off Sea Bright would have you arm-weary by noontime with big sea bass and sea porgies. And fall black-fishing was out of this world. (Black-fishing still holds up well today, but this is only because it is more difficult to fish them commercially.)

And what about those Sheepshead Bay overnight sea bass trips to Atlantic City? That Five-Pound Wreck, the one that produced all those monster sea bass for us fellows? It wasn't called "Five-Pound" without reason. And that sunken barge which lay cater-cornered a thousand yards southeast of the pier? I better quit now while I'm ahead, for surely you won't believe that fishing at all.

For many during those days, winter codfishing was THE fishing highlight of the year. From mid-November

(sometimes earlier), cod moved into the Cholera Bank, offshore Sea Bright, 17 Fathom Bank, and numerous other rock-littered bottoms. By December, they had saturated the area from the Southeast Grounds off Long Island, to Atlantic City and beyond. Cod remained until February in these areas, with a gradual lessening as the month progressed (probably caused by the warming water and the near depletion of forage). We rarely fished wrecks for our cod, for all those rocky areas mentioned held a plentiful supply of old whiskers (double-headers were common).

Conditions in today's world have changed so radically that it is not surprising that I should feel discouraged. The cost of everything is so far out of reach for many, and their reasons for being so are so ridiculous, they would seem almost laughable if they weren't so sad.

For instance, someone recently told me that shrimp were selling for around $9 a pound! And this is the same kind of shrimp I used for snapper bait in Sheepshead Bay as a boy. A day's supply cost me five cents then—maybe a third of a pound. (Our snapper shrimp were never weighed. The Emmons Avenue fish market workers just dipped into the shrimp pile and gave you a handful for your nickel. I always made sure the guy who waited on me had big hands—and those guys sure had them!) If Artie Leidecker and I fished together, we'd splurge and get a dime's worth—and from that we often had bait left over at day's end. Fellers—someone has been giving us the shaft! Truly, someone has sold us a bill of goods.

Now, Joe, my letter-writing friend, also wanted to know what it was like in the streets of Brooklyn when I was a kid. I thought it was good. Some might fault me on this; but I have no complaint.

Those days most women didn't work outside the home. The ones who did were usually school teachers and telephone operators—and these women, as a rule, gave up those jobs when they married. (It was considered a blot on a man's masculinity if his wife worked at the time of which I'm writing.)

And because of this, the neighborhood women were always out shopping or gossiping among themselves. And also because of this it was most difficult to try out a newly-discovered cuss word when you thought no one was within earshot. Doing this would often result in a good cuff alongside the head from an unseen Mrs. Esposito, a Mrs. Cohen, or a Mrs. Kelly. (And these wonderful women had arms of cast iron!) And they'd tell your father what you said, too; which meant another rap on the head or worse if you were foolish enough to insist "old eagle-eye" wasn't telling the truth.

So, one might say that during those days the streets of Brooklyn contained plenty of adults who believed that indeed they were their brother's keeper. And as one who was cuffed more than somewhat in his time, I can now say it didn't harm me one bit. I quickly learned to toe the mark and respect my fellow humans—especially when curtailment of my fishing appeared threatened.

During the time I'm writing about, there were still a few horse-drawn fire engine companies in Brooklyn. There was one in my neighborhood, and when I walked home from school at three o'clock, I would stop by if the weather was nice and the huge doors were open. It was my hope to see the activity when an alarm came in. I desperately wanted to see those firemen from the floor above slide down that shiny brass pole and watch the horses position themselves under the suspended harness.

"Any wreck or rock pile off Sea Bright would have you arm-weary by noontime with big sea bass and sea porgies. And fall blackfishing was out of this world."

It never happened.

But this lack of firehouse action didn't discourage me. I stopped by as often as I could. I watched those horses in their stalls—and they, in turn, would watch me with great interest as they'd dip into the manger and come up with a mouthful of dried hay.

To the right of the firehouse's main doors was a huge oaken desk. This was situated near the corner of the huge room. On its glass top was an array of books, pamphlets, ledgers, and record books, all scattered haphazardly. Always seated at that desk was a red undershirt-clad fireman whose sole job seemed to be the studying of those ledgers. Lying close by and lazing away in the heat of the afternoon sun were the two Dalmatians that belonged to the firemen. Occasionally, a series of gongs would sound and my heart would leap into my throat. Now, at last, I'd see those firemen and those horses rush out into the street on their way to saving some poor soul's life. But alas—no dice. That desk-bound fireman—and those horses—would ignore the clanging and continue their activities—which was reading for the fireman, and for the horses, staring at that dumb street kid.

No story about those days would be complete without mention of Brooklyn's police department.

I resided in my Brooklyn tenement from 1920 to 1934—and in all that time I can recall but one police officer. This is easy enough to understand when you know he was the only one we ever had (except for vacations and sick days, and so on). There were no patrol cars those days and every policeman started his career by walking a beat.

Bandy, for this was his name, came on duty about 4PM and finished his tour about midnight. Where his tour began, I never knew; but along about 8PM, there'd be Bandy walking the neighborhood streets, twirling his nightstick and making it "climb the string."

Bandy knew your father; he knew your mother (and chances were good he watched her carry you before you were born); he knew all about you.

I believe to this day that everyone in our neighborhood dearly loved Bandy in their own particular way, although as little kids we boys did try to bedevil him a great deal. Five or six of us, aged eight or nine, would run up to Bandy, stick out our tongues, place our thumbs to our ears, palms forward and wiggle our fingers, chanting: "Brass buttons, blue coat, couldn't catch a nannygoat!" And Bandy would place hands on hips and say in his rich Irish brogue: "So, 'tis some tough guys I've got on me beat. Run along now before I run yis all in."

And on cold winter nights I'd lie in my warm bed and hear Bandy walking his beat. And I'd feel pity for him, for there were some mighty cold nights then! Bandy would be whistling as he walked along, testing store doors and keeping an eye on things in general. In my mind's eye, I could see him make that nightstick "walk the string."

At the time I often wondered why Bandy didn't freeze to death. Why this never happened was revealed to me one day by my fishing buddy Aaron Feldman, whose family ran the neighborhood candy store.

"You mean you don't know?" Aaron said. "Heck, you're dumb. Pop always leaves the store door unlocked on those cold nights and a glass of port wine standing on the soda counter. And on Bandy's way back on the other side of the street, Mr. Rizzo, the fruit man, told Pop he does the same. And so does Sam, the tailor. Don't worry about Bandy. He's just as warm as you are—maybe warmer."

So—that's the way things were in my Brooklyn neighborhood when I was a kid living there some 60 years ago. Those conditions were due to become hectic in a few short years—but we didn't know it then.

Truly, ignorance is bliss.

CAPE HATTERAS: A Fisherman's Paradise

by Eric Burnley

The first man to chart the Outer Banks of North Carolina was Amerigo Vespucci and while history fails to record if he was a fisherman, most all of the men who followed him were. The original settlers on the Outer Banks were castaways, victims of shipwrecks on the treacherous Diamond Shoals. Many never went to sea again, while others worked fishing boats in local waters or became members of the various lifeboat stations along the coast, saving the lives of many other shipwreck victims.

Those who chose the life of a fisherman were seldom disappointed, because the bounty of the sea is nowhere more evident than along the Outer Banks. If you can catch it anywhere on the East Coast, you can catch it here.

Commercial fishing was the only method of take for many generations. The few who did fish for sport used the same tarred handlines, hooks and bait employed by commercial men.

Today that system is reversed with thousands of recreational anglers flocking to the Outer Banks each year intent upon catching some of the biggest fish available to saltwater sportsmen. The waters around the Outer Banks have produced several world records including bluefish and red drum. The largest blue marlin ever landed in the United States is on display at Oregon Inlet.

While you can catch fish almost anywhere along the Outer Banks, most of the activity is centered between Oregon Inlet and Hatteras Inlet. There is some excellent surf and pier fish around Nags Head and Kitty Hawk to the north. Ocracoke and Portsmith Islands to the south provide isolation for the surf fisherman tired of the crowds, but they are also difficult to reach.

Hatteras Island was also somewhat difficult to reach until the Bonner Bridge was built across Oregon Inlet. Now you can drive down to Hatteras Inlet before you need a ferry to continue your journey.

My first trip to Cape Hatteras was in 1973 during the full moon of November. In typical Hatteras fashion, the weather was less than ideal, but in spite of this I caught the biggest bluefish of my life from the surf. Needless to say, I fell in love with the place and I have been back many times.

Hatteras surf fishing can be a year-round sport, but best action is usually in the spring and fall. Big blues and trophy sized channel bass are the drawing cards at this time of year.

In the summer, pompano, small blues and Spanish mackerel provide the sport. Hatteras has become a popular vacation spot for non-fishing tourists, so be prepared to put up with some swimmers and sunbathers if you fish during the day. Best action is usually in the early morning or late evening when most of the other folks are away from the beach.

During mild periods in the winter big blues and speckled trout can be taken. You need clear water, calm winds and moderate temperatures, but when all of these conditions are right, good action is possible.

To fish the Hatteras surf effectively you should have a four-wheel drive vehicle. Walk-on fishing is possible, but the beach is so long that only the hardiest anglers can handle the hike.

Tackle should be fairly sturdy for the spring and fall fishing: a 10 to 12 foot rod capable of throwing 4 to 6 ounces of lead and a large capacity reel filled with 15 to 20 pound line. Cut bait is always effective, while metal lures or plugs will take fish when they school up.

A good surf guide is a valuable help for the novice Hatteras angler. A day

John J. Chance caught these big blues from the Outer Banks Fishing Pier.

or two with an experienced guide is worth a month of expeditions on your own. Guides are also perfect for those without a four wheel drive vehicle because they will taxi you up and down the beach.

Pier fishing is another avenue for fishermen without their own transportation. They are also excellent for families where some members may not be avid anglers. Most of the piers have some sort of arcade to entertain when the fishing slows up.

From May through September the offshore action can be unbelieveable. Years ago when I began gathering the reports for Cape Hatteras, I could not believe the numbers of tuna and white marlin reported taken out of Oregon Inlet. Several subscribers did believe them and drove down for a try. They wrote glowing letters describing the action which they said was actually better than my reports indicated.

Compared to what we are used to up here, the Gulf Stream is a short run off of Hatteras. You can be there within 35 miles of Oregon Inlet or 12 miles out of Hatteras Inlet.

Unfortunately, the confluence of the warm Gulf Stream and the colder Labrador Current that creates such good fishing also creates some very rough seas. Small boats can operate off of here, but only on the best of days and with an experienced crew.

Your best bet is to hire a local charter boat skipper and fish in safety. Hatteras boats are traditionally large and comfortable with captains who can trace their ancestry back to the shipwrecked sailors who found this island.

Unless you have some religious convictions about using light tackle, I suggest you leave anything under 50 pounds at home. You can take white marlin and small tuna on the light stuff, but the odds of hooking up with a big blue are just too great to chance.

Small boaters who work the inshore waters can expect a bonanza of fish. Flounder, gray trout, speckled trout, blues, king mackerel, and amberjack are all available within a few miles of the beach.

One area that gets little attention from visiting anglers is the Sound. Pamlico Sound behind Hatteras Island is a hotspot for trout, croakers and cobia. Albemarle, Croatan and Roanoke Sounds north of Oregon Inlet also hold good populations of inshore fish.

The Sounds are marked with day markers, but some of the best fishing is found away from the channels on uncharted flats and holes. Once again a local guide will be a great help.

Don't plan a Hatteras trip if you only have a day or two to fish. The weather can be severe and you could find yourself in your motel room listening to the wind blow away your plans. Over a period of 5 to 7 days you can almost be assured of some good fishing weather and if everyday is good you can sample more of what Cape Hatteras has to offer.

This 957 lb. blue marlin was taken out of Oregon Inlet from the charter boat Pelican with Captain Bill Midget. Robert Wehnerwas the lucky angler. Vanessa Foremron photo.

CAPE HATTERAS INFO

— Surf Fishing Guide —

OUTER BANKS FISHFINDERS . . . . . (919) 441-6065
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— Offshore Fishing —

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

"Old Man Winter" allowed spring to sneak in a couple of balmy days last week. Several anglers took advantage of this opportunity to locate flounder at both the Shinnecock and Quogue Canals. A warm weekend should find lots of flounder eager to feed. Cod have been located on Montauk's offshore wrecks.

MONTAUK

Captain John DeMaio called to tell us that the charter boat **Vivienne** is now fishing for cod. Call for rates and open dates at the new number: 324-8820.

Fifty anglers on the **Viking Starship** on Sunday's trip to an offshore wreck met lots of cod, most in the twelve to fourteen pound range with pool winners of over thirty pounds. Captain Forsberg stated that the action was best later in the day when all hands, including himself, were hard pressed to gaff all the fish surfacing at the same time. The final tally included approximately two hundred and eleven codfish, twenty pollock, and over a half dozen hake. John (goo-goo eyes) Robussa and his friend Robert Rojas combined for twenty-seven cod, Steve Chimbalo caught eleven, and Frank Bodinski put fourteen cod in his cooler. The **Starship** is scheduled to fish for cod Saturday, Sunday and Monday's throughout March.

Glenn, Ed, Dave and Wayne with a nice catch of tuna made aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Pronto," last summer.

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Captain Michael Potts is presently readying the **Bluefin IV** for spring charters which will begin the last week in March. Call him at 668-9323 for rates and available dates.

SOUTH FORK

Flounder mavens Fred Holt of Mastic with his friend Patrick Coveny of Shirley took advantage of last week's mild weather to launch Fred's fourteen foot boat into the Quogue Canal, digging some bank mussels beforehand. Their flounder tally on Tuesday's trip was seventy flatties, or four buckets worth. All the fish were located in a deep hole, 25 feet, off the golf course, with blood worms and mussel chum doing the trick. A quick trip this Sunday found ice, cold winds, and no fish. Fred related that best action occurred earlier in the week on windless days, incomming tide after the sun warmed up the spot

Rosemary Fedorco of Manorville found flounder biting in the Shinnecock Canal on two nice days last week, Tuesday when twelve flounder took her bait and Wednesday when fifteen were taken home to dinner. Rosemary found sandworms the best bait last week, with a "let them eat" approach working best on these lethargic fish. The Shinnecock Canal can only be fished when the locks are closed. Best to get there early since mild days bring out hundreds of anglers. With the Suffolk County facility receiving so much use this time of year, one can only wonder when the rest rooms will be open!

Dick Mendelman at **Harbor Marina** at **Three Mile Harbor** said that the marina is getting ready for the spring run of flounder which usually begins about St. Patrick's Day. They will be

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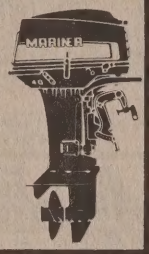

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The Moriches Anglers Fishing Club is sponsoring an inshore-offshore seminar the night of March 20th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center Moriches High School auditorium. Captain John DeMaio, the inshore wizard, and Captain Zac Grossman who specializes in shark and tuna on the Mako Express, will share some of the fine points of their secrets of success. A three dollar fee will be charged, with all procedes going to the Send-A-Kid Fishing fund, promoted by **The Fisherman**. Lorry Mangan will moderate this event. For further information, call Tom Montalbano at 281-0235, or Lorry at 928-1347.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Wind and cold wiped out the attempts of most anglers to put away some flounder fillets this weekend. After some improved flatfish scores during mid-week, the arctic blast that swept through the region on Friday and Saturday set the fishing back another notch or two. Mild weather forecasts for this week should go a long way to getting the fishing back on track.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Joe Matchekosky and Georgie Brech used a car-top boat to gain access to the old site of Buoy 7A in the Quogue Canal last Sunday. Joe felt obligated after reading our negative reports on the action to call and tell us that he and George did managed 42 keepers. He noted that mussel bait and chum and red dyed clams did the damage with the best action taking place during the last three hours of incoming tide. Another boat anchored nearby told of making a good catch as well.

Larry Dallaire at **L & M Marineland** in **East Moriches** confirmed some pretty decent flounder action in the Quogue Canal during the week. Most of the better catches were made near the former vicinity of Buoy 7A. Fred Holt put away 56 flatties including some very nice size fish according to Larry. He used heavy clam chum and bloodworm bait. Icy cold weather wiped out the weekend fishing though four boats did make an attempt at fishing with poor results.

Over at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**, Gary Grunseich said that no one even attempted to get out

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GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Joey Modica at **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** heard from several reliable sources of catches of flatties up into the fifties made during the week at the Quogue Canal. He also heard that cold weather killed the fishing for the weekend. He knew from some customers that there was a pick of flatties in the Shinnecock Canal during the week but this fishing also suffered on the weekend. The shop has both sand and bloodworms in stock for flounder fans.

At **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Al Colban reported that the wind and cold kept most anglers in the barn on this weekend. He was optimistic that the mild weather forecast for this week would get things going. He expects to be in full operation for this coming weekend.

At **Kim's Reef** in **Seaford**, Kim reported that the weekend. He heard of some decent catches of flatties made in the Quogue Canal during the week, but nothing in the local bay. A few flounder, tommy cod and an occasional white perch being taken on worms in the tidal reaches of the Connetquot. For surf fishermen looking to unlimber, there has been some steady action with stripers at the Lilco outflow in Northport.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Bay Shore** based **Casey Lee** and **Laura Lee** reported that he has both boats

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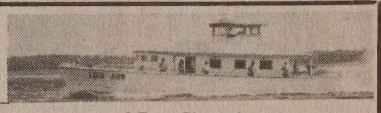

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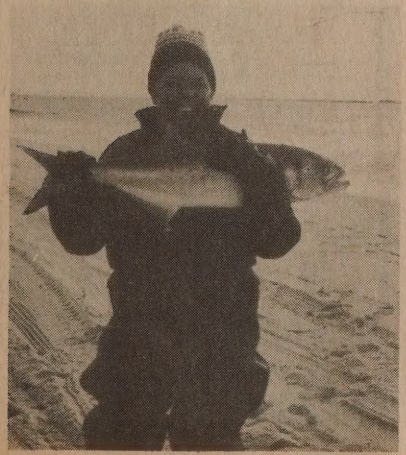
ready to go. He will be sailing every day and reminded that the Laura Lee will be available for moonlight sails as well. Flounder action has been way off but look for some mild weather to get the ball rolling. The forecast for this week sounds encouraging.

Noel Kappauf at **Captree Bait and Tackle** reported a tough weekend on the flounder front. No activity to report from the docks and even the party boats were kept at bay in Saturdays wind and cold. Noel reminded that they have blood and sandworms as well as fresh chowder and skimmer clams and bank mussels on hand for flounder fishermen.

The **Captree** flounder fleet took a beating as a result of the recent cold front that moved through our area. Boat stayed tied to the docks on Saturday and only a few managed to sail on Sunday. They had to contend with small crowds and very tough fishing conditions which produced poor results. Action during the week was still very slow but there were signs of improvement. Everyone agrees that a few mild days will kick the fishing into gear as it is nearly 2 weeks behind schedule.

Over at **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** blamed the wind and cold for keeping everyone home this weekend. He spoke of a pick of fish in the local bay on Tuesday and Wednesday but the cold weather delt the fishing a temporary setback. Some customers have been running out to Shinnecock and picking away at the flatties. Others have been working the warm water outflow at Lilco in Northport and taking some schoolie stripers and white perch. Tom noted that the shop is open 7AM daily and they are well stocked with worms and mussels.

From **Edelmans** in **Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera reported that locally, flounder fishing was a blowout. Weather permitting, the Copiague Hole has been producing a slow pick of fish. He added that the fish are there but we desperately need for the



Joan Dlabola beached this big blue in the Cedar Beach surf last fall. She used a Bomber plug. Subscriber photo.

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West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

weather to cooperate. A few customers have been picking away at the flatties from the banks of the Shinnecock Canal.

Winter seems reluctant to leave the area, yet there are wisps of warmth moving in on brief occasions. Flounder fishing in our area has been slow to start, with very picky catches being made here and there. About the same can be said for local codfishing, although two of the main cod boats have spent the last couple of weeks doing maintenance on the boats and have not been sailing. Saturday's violent winds and Friday's big chill and light snow also kept activity, both human and piscatorial at a low level. Blackfishing out of Sheepshead Bay

Rick Hoeg with a nice tuna taken last season aboard the Freeport based charter boat, "Apus III."

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seems to have been the only highlight.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

From Seaford, **Pop's Fishing Station** called to say there has been some limited action on flatties, scatttered, to be sure on the eastern side of Massapequa Cove. Wally says the station is open for business for the season, with boats in the water.

Over in Wantagh, **Causeway Bait and Tackle** told of a couple of teen sized cod taken at Cholera in the middle of the week on slack water. The boat was anchored up and fishing clam bait with plenty of clam chum. Mike says there will no doubt be a sudden start on the flounder once we get a couple of warmish days.

Randy Smith at **Garan's Tackle** in Merrick said that through Sunday he's had a few scattered flounder reports from customers, but on the light side. The Jones Beach Fishing Piers were mentioned as one spot that produced some fish. Randy said mussels and bloodworms are in stock and things should be kicking off very soon once the sun shines a bit.

Over in Freeport, we learn from the **Captain Lou Fleet**, sailing both full day and half day trips on their two boats that with the water temperatures still low this past week, just a few flatties were caught by customers. Skipper Mike Dannon said that with a little warming of the weather and water, the fishing should pick up quickly.

Last week Captain Mike Barnett of the charter boat **Codfather** on a busman's holiday aboard his own boat had four cod fishing Middle Grounds while on the hook and chumming with clam shells and using clam as hook bait. These fish came in three hours.

Over in Point Lookout, Captain Ron of the **Miss Point Lookout** said that opening day Saturday was blown out but that he made his first trip of the season Sunday. A few fish were taken on the morning trip with regular Bob

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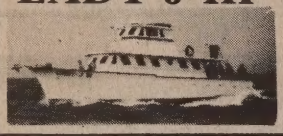

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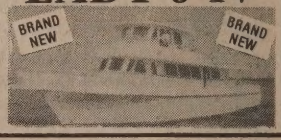

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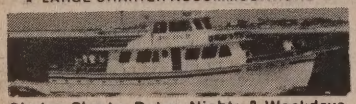

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Zupka starting the season with the pool. Ron also is waiting for some warm weather for things to take off. This Friday, March 14th the boat will start sailing everyday.

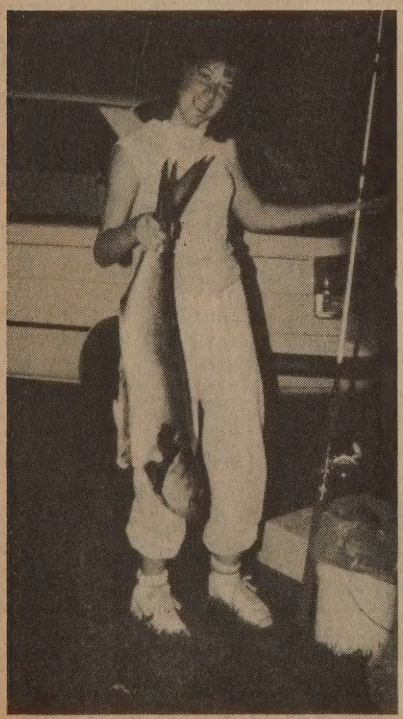
We hear from the open boat **Captain Al** that fares picked away at a few cod during the week, but nothing great was happening. The skipper asked us to let you know that they will be doing maintenance work on this boat during this week but will probably be sailing again by the weekend. He therefore asked that you please call before coming.

Tom at **Scotty's Fishing Station** says that all his boats and motors are ready for action and in the water and the spring floundering should bust open with just a couple of warm days.

Over at **Long Beach Fishing Station** we hear from Bernie who says that the opening for the season will be on March 27th, Thursday with all boats and motors raring to go.

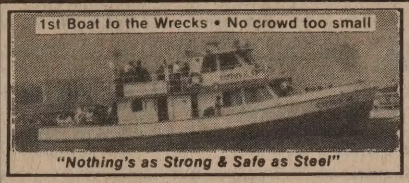
NEW YORK BIGHT

The word from Wee Willie at **Mike's Tackle** in Sheepshead Bay, directly across the fleet is the good news this past week is blackfish being caught at 17 Fathoms, fish running 5 to 8 pounds to the tune of eight fish per man average. Some ling are being caught. The Zephyr has been picking away on flounder, getting the flattie season going. Super catch of the week was a monster 12 lb. black taken aboard the **Pilot II** on Sunday by Virginia Kilgore of Brooklyn:



Kerri Walsh, age 12, decked this 18½ lb. blue back in September aboard the Freeport based, "Norseman II."

POINT LOOKOUT



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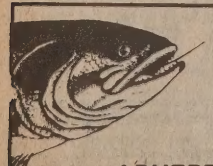

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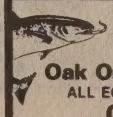

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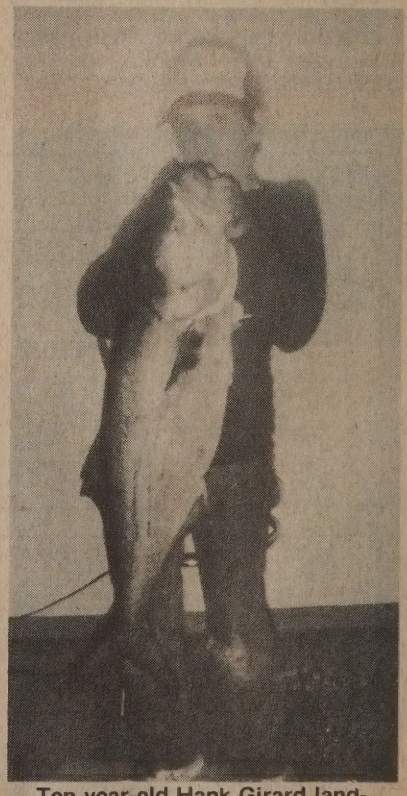
North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

Virtually all shops were in full swing this past weekend, open all day Saturday and at least until noon Sunday. However, anglers were in short supply and no wonder! The North Shore was virtually unfishable until Sunday because of the old Montreal Express, gale force northerlies. A warming trend early this coming week may set the stage for a good St. Pat's opener.

WESTERN SOUND

John's Gun and Tackle in New Rochelle has sandworms and clams in stock, and the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** even had a few fishermen out before the crisp weather (daytime highs 25 degrees; nighttime low 9 degrees) arrived on Thursday. The pond is the first spot to try, Dosoris Pond that it.

The **Klondike VIII** expects to start



Ten-year-old Hank Girard landed this 18 lb. blue from the Jones Beach Fishing Piers last October. It was weighed at Causeway Bait and Tackle in Wantagh.

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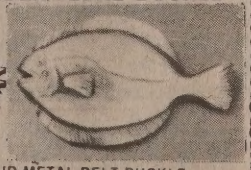
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sailing in April, but the City Island boats will be breaking the ice on Saturday, March 15th. Both Dom Cerbone's **Apache** and Pete Anderson's **North Star** will be sailing daily schedules from then on.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** thought that there might be a few fish here and there, but that the reports last week of real action around Cold Spring Harbor and Lloyds were premature to put it mildly. Even local clam diggers had nothing in their rakes. The shop has frozen clam and worms along with frozen chum, but won't be picking mussels for awhile.

Valentine said that it seems likely that Billy Collins will at least be running with regulars on a small boat after April 15th. Negotiations are ongoing for charters and for the schedule of the **Ever Ready**, which may or may not be sold.

Mel and Ilene Fleischmann at **Greenlawn Sport** had some fabulous small boat fishing off St. Maartens in February during 18 perfect days. All the red snapper and big tropical porgies you wanted plus king mackerel to 25 lbs.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** in Northport tells us that diehards try t shake the cabin fever by fishing at Lilco, but that the St. Pat's weekend is still the kickoff. That's when the shop will have bait. The **Compleat Angler** in Miller Place also anticipates bait supplies next weekend.

Stan Hentschel at the **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** was peddling worms to a few hardies headed for the South Fork. The fish from Shinnecock were already healthy one pounders and there were a few fast days on the Quogue Canal as well.

Bruce Cash will be sailing the **Prowler** from Port Jeff Harbor on Saturdays and Sundays at 8PM. He expects the inside waters to yield fish early with the outside areas beginning about mid-April.

NORTH FORK

Warren's will be closing at 4PM Saturday and Sunday during the early season, but Ed Kopack already has a stock of mussels. All the anglers he knows are headed south to Shinnecock.

Ace Cottral at **Port of Egypt** will be carrying a full line of tackle and bait supplies at the Market, but the old livery operation is no more. Last year proved the economic theory of profit-and-loss, so there will be no more rentals. There has been some concern, says Cottral, about the correlations between shellfish stocks and flounder, but the South Shore fishing has been encouraging so far. Real fishing activity in the Peconics is

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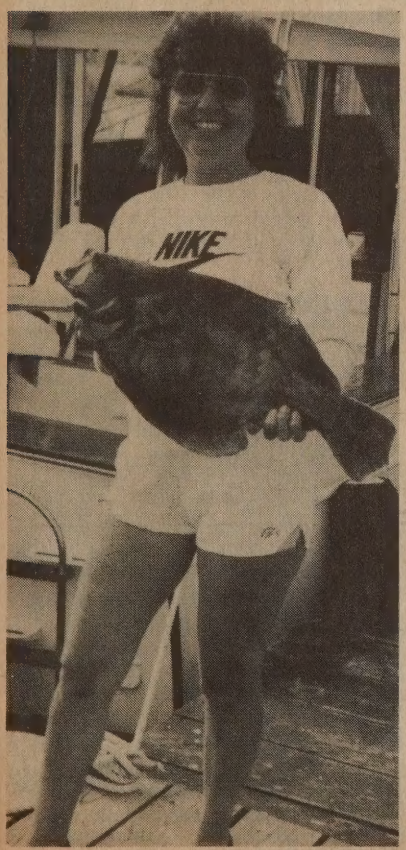

Joanne Moran decked this hefty 11½ lb. doormat fluke at Montauk last summer. Subscriber photo.

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anticipated by mid-April, with only slim chances for anything good by St. Pat's. February and early March were just too cold!

Freshwater REPORT with Tom Schlichter

While the weather was still a little brisk for my taste last week, a few anglers did get out to test their favorite fresh or brackish waters. As one might expect at this time of year, results were mixed but despite the chill winds that blew over the weekend, the first hints of spring were visible in some catches.

Bobby Turturello at **Causeway Bait and Tackle** of **Wantagh**, told us that John "Duckboat" has gotten off to a good start. John worked worm baits in Massapequa's Caroomed Lake and scored with a total of fifteen large-mouth bass between twelve inches and seventeen inches over the course of the week. Lloyd Dobbins of Seaford took four pickerel to eighteen inches on Saturday in Southard's Pond. Worms did the trick here too. Both John and Lloyd released all their fish. Bass season runs until March 15th after which it will remain closed until the first Saturday in June.

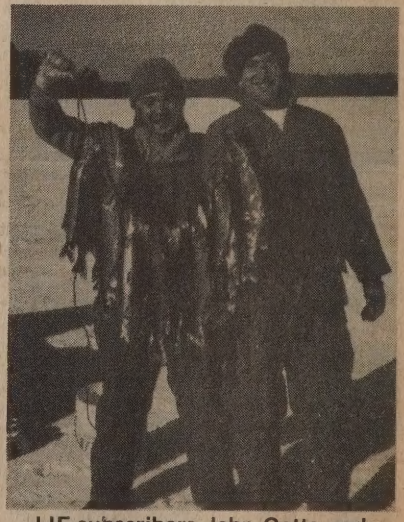
From Connetquot River State Park, Gil Bergen reports that anglers have been taking fair numbers of holdover brown, rainbow and brook trout despite the "perils of winter". The biggest fish checked in this week was a three pound rainbow trout taken from the lower strech of the river. Most of the better scores and bigger fish have been taken from the lower sections of the park over the past two weeks. Gil asked us to relay word that all weekend dates have been booked through March but there are plenty of open spots for weekday anglers.

Dave Canale of **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, reports fishermen taking some small trout and occasional twelve to fifteen inch fish from Bubbles Falls and Rattlesnake Creek but other than that action has been slow. One angler checked in a fifteen inch trout taken from the tidal section of the Nissequogue River. No white perch to speak of in the tidal creeks.

Over at **J&J Bait and Tackle** of **Patchogue**, John spoke of slow fishing for yellow perch in the Patchogue lakes and even slower white perch action in the tidal creeks. No tidal trout were brought into the shop this week.

I made a trip down to Tuthill's Creek on Sunday morning to see if there were any sea run brownies still residing in the tidal waters there, if there were any, they weren't interested in my lures because I came away empty handed. Earlier in the week, however, I did see an angler take a two pound rainbow from the tidal section of the Carmen's River. The trout fell for a small spinner.

From Bob Johnson of **Odessey Charters** in **Rochester**, we hear that fishing is still pretty slow as all the ice hasn't yet retreated from the waters of Lake Ontario. In the rivers, however, things do seem to be getting underway. Just before last week's high winds and stormy weather, steelhead action was starting up in the Genesee River. The weather will have to settle down for a day or two before the action will start up again.



LIF subscribers John Gatto and Tony Disclafani with a fine string of pickerel taken back in January. They did their ice fishing on Superior Lake, upstate New York.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	9:30	9:45	10:25	10:40	10:15	10:35	11:10	11:30	1:05	1:25	12:40	12:05	9:25	9:45	3/13
FRI.	10:10	10:25	11:00	11:15	10:55	11:15	11:50	—	1:30	1:55	1:20	1:45	10:05	10:25	3/14
SAT.	10:45	11:00	11:40	11:55	11:35	11:50	12:10	12:35	1:55	2:25	2:00	2:25	10:45	11:10	3/15
SUN.	11:25	11:45	—	12:20	—	12:15	12:55	1:25	2:30	3:05	2:40	3:10	11:30	11:55	3/16
MON.	—	12:15	12:45	1:10	12:30	12:55	1:45	2:20	3:10	3:50	3:30	4:00	—	12:25	3/17
TUES.	12:30	1:05	1:35	2:00	1:15	1:50	2:40	3:25	4:00	4:45	4:20	4:55	12:50	1:25	3/18
WED.	1:25	2:10	2:35	3:05	2:10	2:55	3:35	4:25	4:55	6:05	5:20	5:55	1:55	2:30	3/19
THURS.	2:30	3:20	3:40	4:05	3:20	4:10	4:35	5:25	6:00	7:25	6:15	6:50	3:00	3:30	3/20

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+4:03
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	3/13	6:15	6:04
FRI.	3/14	6:14	6:05
SAT.	3/15	6:12	6:06
SUN.	3/16	6:10	6:08
MON.	3/17	6:09	6:09
TUE.	3/18	6:08	6:10
WED.	3/19	6:07	6:11

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	3/13	7:36AM	9:25PM
FRI.	3/14	7:59AM	10:21PM
SAT.	3/15	8:24AM	11:24PM
SUN.	3/16	8:53AM	—
MON.	3/17	9:29AM	12:25AM
TUE.	3/18	10:12AM	1:26AM
WED.	3/19	11:03AM	2:21AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
3/10	3/18	3/26	4/1

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	6:45	12:35	7:15	1:00
Fri.	7:35	1:25	8:00	1:45
Sat.	8:20	2:10	8:45	2:30
Sun.	9:10	3:00	9:35	3:20
Mon.	10:00	3:50	10:30	4:15
Tues.	10:55	4:45	11:25	5:10
Wed.	11:40	5:30	—	6:00
Thurs.	12:15	6:20	12:30	6:45

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EVINRUDE OUTBOARDS: We will meet or beat anyone's prices on '86 models right down to cost. Call us now. OMC props 20% off; Evinrude oil $27.99 case; 85 amp. marine battery $39.95. Teleflex cables 30% off. Parts, accessories. SEALAND, 516-842-1242.

MERCURY MARINE MARINER OUTBOARDS 2-$355; 4-$535; 5-$660; 8-$865; 9.9-$1095; 15-$1210; 20-$1335; 25-$1435; 30-$1500; 40-$1585; 45-$2145; 50-$2375; 55-$2150; 60-$2590; 75-$2955; 90-$3275; 115-$4075; 150-$4870; 175-$5220; 200-$5500. Financing, 3-yr. warranties. Leftovers available. SPORTS MARINE, 201-736-3909.

1979 GRADY WHITE Sprint 17' 70 hp Evinrude. Trailer & full canvas. $3750. 718-225-4043.

BAYHEAD MARINA: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Special! Rebuilt Mercruiser trim cylinder $95. w/core. 718-525-5724.

1979 25' BLACKFIN, twin Volvo diesels, w/tower. Full electronics. Mint! $39,000. 516-378-5072.

1985 GRADY White 255 Sailfish, twin 175 Evinrudes, hard top w/full canvas. Pompanette SF 80 fight chair, 18' Lee Jr outriggers, pulpit, dual batt., electric windlass, 4 flush rod holders, rocket launcher on hardtop, SW washdown, 7" remote spotlight. Spreader lights, radio box. Full instrumentation. Head, Furuno 2000 radar, micrologic 7500 Loran. Lowrance X16, Apelco ADF, Icom M-80C. Must see. For price & info: 212-538-7402.

CRUSADERS Pair 320 hp 427s. Excl. running cond. New manifolds & risers, without gears. $1800. 516-669-3824/669-0789.

1985 12' ACHILLES Inflatable 15 hp Evinrude. Under warranty. Highlander trailer. Many extras for boat. Excl. for fun, fishing or tender. $2200. After 6PM: 718-225-5817.

235 EVINRUDE 1982 Extra Long Shaft. Low hrs. Excl. cond. $2500. Mike: 1-718-627-7150.

1974 MAKO 23' 1979 Mercury 200 hp. 80 hrs. on new Power Head. CB, VHF, DR, compass. Bimini top, spray hood. $11,500. Days: 516-432-7474.

ONLY $20,990
25' STEIGER CRAFT w/150 hp Mercury. Commercial & pleasure models. MARINELAND: Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

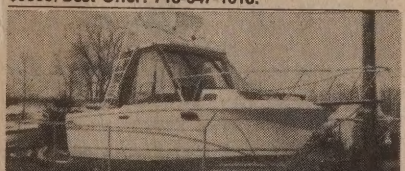
MOVING—MUST SELL
32' 1982 Stamas Flybridge Cruiser. Low hrs. Custom extras. Must see. Wknds & after 7PM; 516-567-6733.

42' KARL TANK Walkaround, twin Lehman diesels, radar, fishfinder. Many more extras. Very cheap to operate. $8500 or best offer. 516-579-5298.

FOR SALE: 1985 19' WELLCRAFT. Mint cond. I/B - O/B. EZ Load trailer. $10,500 Firm. 364-1448.

JOHNSON 1985 175 hp VRO 25" 70 hrs. w/2 yr. extended warranty. SS Prop. Compl. w/all gauges & cables. Like new. After 6PM: 516-764-3834.

20' AQUASPORT 1979 Cuddy cabin, 90 hp Mercury. Chart recorder, VHF, dual batt. Custom teak transom/splash well. New canvas, Teleflex steering & galv. trailer. Low hrs. Excl. cond. $9500/Best Offer. 718-347-1618.



81 ROBALO Sportfisherman 26' 5"X10' beam. V-bunks, galley w/sink, icebox. Head w/sink & shower. Twin Mercruiser I/Bs. Custom tower, hydraulic controls, outriggers, fighting chair. Loran, VHF, knotlog, fuel totalizer, seawater temp., Halon. $44,900. 201-327-1123. Eves: 201-327-7180.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

MFG 16' Runabout, 70 hp Evinrude. Full covers; extras. Asking $1400. 212-994-7365/325-8529.

18' GLASPAR 135 hp Evinrude, PT&T, SS prop. Swivel seats, Navy top & side curtains. Shoreline EZ Load trailer. $2200. 744-5930.

WANTED: 21'-23' 1974 -80 Mako, Robalo, Blackfin, 150 hp +. Will pay fair price. 516-334-3453.

32' FOREST JOHNSON Prowler 1975 Sportfisherman, twin Perkins dsls. Both just majored, new imron, radar, auto pilot, etc. Rybo chair. Fast; economical. In Bristol cond. Bus: 516-264-2202. Home: 516-422-3492.

OLD PARTY BOAT WANTED: 40'-50' at least 30 pass. Must have passed CG inspection. 201-941-9162.

25' MAKO 77, Johnson 235 83. Less than 200 hrs. on engine. Hydraulic steering, SS prop. Dual batt., electronics, downriggers, outriggers, 125 gal. gas tanks. Canvas cuddy. $13,500. 516-489-4923.

23' 1977 SEA CRAFT CUDDY I/O, 380 hrs. Si-Tex Recorder, Datamarine 400' digital. Lee O.R.s, Dytek, Horizon VHF, CB, Mercathode system. Full canvas. Showroom cond. $15,450. Days: 914-761-0150. Eves: 914-762-3051. Wknd: 516-728-2712.

1984 GRADY WHITE TROPHY 25', 9' 6" Beam. Hardtop, rocket launcher on hardtop. Custom canvas, twin Mercs I/Os FWC, SS props, T/T. Searchlight, lower unit reservoir bottles. 4 batt., Halon system. Full swim platform, 6-man Zodiac life raft in cannister. Lee Sr. O/Rs, Lee center rigger, 8 flush rod holders. Scoponich Fight chair, Furuno Loran C, Raytheon 12 mile radar, auto pilot. Horizon VHF, SW temp gauge. Mecca recorder, dig. depth/alarm, stereo w/tape deck. SW washdown, Marine toilet, chem. w/OB discharge. This Grady is rigged to fish & in beautiful cond. Bought larger boat. 516-728-4730.

1984 GRUMMAN 17' CC 70 hp Evinrude, VHF, DF, 85 galv. trailer. Bimini top. Low hrs. $7000. 757-3484.

1985 BERTRAM 26' Only 20 hrs. old. Beautiful, fast & rugged. Limited edition O/B Sportfisherman, 10' beam, huge cockpit. Large cuddy cabin, hanging lockers, V-berths, cushions. Twin 220 hp Yamaha V-6 Specials. Compl. instrumentation & finest components. 5-yr. hull & 2-yr. motor transferable warranties. Documented. Moving; must sell. Drastic price reduction. $39,900. 516-826-0263

350 Chev I/B rebuilt March '83 w/new manifolds. No transmission. Will Demo & deliver within 100 miles. $650. 8AM-5PM: 212-863-0992.

29 TOPAZ 1985, twin Volvo TAMD40B diesels, FWC, AM/FM cassette stereo, batt. charger, bow pulpit, cabin fan, compass, Halon, Y-valve head w/shower, radio box, refrig., washdown, tower lights, T/T, tower w/controls, wipers, canvas encl., tower cover, custom tackle lockers/cabinet seats w/cushions, C-Master V, Horizon Int VHF, Lowrance X-16, Si-Tex T100 radar. Dytek temp, Lowrance 3200 digital, Epirb, Micron bottom paint. ATLANTIC SPORT FISHING, Pt. Pleasant, 201-899-1800.

4 WINNS 1983 18' cuddy cabin, 120 hp Mercruiser I/O. Full canvas. Mint cond. $8900. Day: 718-837-5888. Eves: 718-253-8262.

1984 17' PROLINE Center Console, 90 hp Evinrude, TeeNee galv. trailer w/EZ Load rollers, power winch, Si-Tex chart recorder, VHF radio. Excl. cond. Extras. $8700. 516-764-5798.

18' PICKEREL Custom Built, 55 Evinrude. 728-9734 Early.

AQUASPORT 222 CCP 1984, twin Yamahas, Loran, VHF, recorder, depth finder, water temp. Dual batt., outriggers. Live bait well. Low hrs. Mint. Boat is on LI. 9-5: 212-972-3505. After 5: 718-423-3678.

Continued On Next Page

FOR SALE: Marine Engines—1, 360 Chrysler FWC, w/trans. All accessories. Both eng. & trans. Have 40 hrs. since overhaul. Compl. parts list avail. Ask. $2300. 1, 318 Chrysler FWC, w/trans. All accessories. 400 hrs. since new. Ask. $1400. Both engines removed from 31 Bertram in major repower. Both engines in perfect operating cond. Both engines located for immed. inspection in Hampton Bays, LI. TRED BARTA, 516-288-1671.

1984 235 hp Evinrude, VRO, 35 amp generator. Warranty to 5-31-87. $3250. Don: 516-379-7212.

1982 21' PROLINE center console Sportfisherman, 1984 115 hp VRO Evinrude w/extended warranty. Very low hrs. SST prop, spray hood, rod holder + extras. Mint cond. $8800 negotiable. Eves: 516-432-5336.

1980 25' 7" ROBALO center console twin 1985 140s. PT&T, hyd. steering, pulpit, fight chair, outriggers, 128 gal. gas tank. Surface water temp. digital depthfinder. Full instruments. Spray hood. Financing avail. $21,000. JENSEN MARINE, 516-226-9739.

FISHERMAN'S DREAM—30' center console, tuna tower, VHF, Loran, recorder, 225 FWC Cruiser. $13,500. G&J MARINE, 516-432-7474.

31' BERTRAM Flybridge Cruiser 1971. Rigged for fishing. Tuna tower, full electronics. New twin 340 hp Mercruisers. $55,000. Days: 516-661-6287. Eves: 516-587-2717.

23' CHRIS CRAFT Lancier Volvo 280 outdrive. New U joints, gimbal bearing & boots. 100 hrs. on Chevy V8, dual batt. Interior refinished. Deck, seats & chrome. Teleflex steer. & extras. Moving to Arizona. Must sell. $5500. 516-747-2392.

19' MAKO 1979, Shoreline trailer, power winch, Lowrance X15, VHF, CB, Hynautic steer., outriggers, tournament rear seat, 1983 150 hp Mariana. Bus: 516-264-2202. Home: 516-422-3492.

Great Boat North American 1971 19' 6" I/O, 1980 Shoreline trailer, elec. winch. $5000. 516-462-5767 Ask for Dave.

1981 SEA RAY 255 "Amberjack" 10' 0 beam, TW 485 Mercr. I/O. Rigged for fishing & cruising. Documented. Loaded w/extras. Ask. $26,900. Days: 212-874-1478. Eves: 201-573-9537.

1985 28' Bayliner Contessa De, 260 hp Volvo FWC. Full canvas w/camper, side & aft screens, dual batt., pump out toilet w/holding tank. Halon sys., dockside water, stereo sys., 4 SS rod holders. 20 hrs. on boat-$39,000.
1985 Glastron Conroy X-190 Stern drive. Loaded. $9500.
1985 Glastron Conroy X-170 Stern drive. Showroom cond.-$15,200.
1979 17.6 Aquasport 1985 90 hp Evinrude, cuddy cabin, VHF, CB, color DF. EZ Load trlr. Elec. winch brakes. Immaculate-$6800.
1983 Thompson 24' 260 Mercruiser 8' beam. Sleeps 6. T/T, swim plat. Full canvas, head, gliey, DF, VHF, CB, AM/FM cassette. Like new-$24,000
24' Thompson 1983 Vacationer, 260 Merc. Full canvas, 110 elect, VHF, CB, DF, Stereo, swim plat. Very clean-$22,000.
23' Renken '84 Sportfish CC, V8 I/O-$15,000.
18' Glaspar tri-hull 1972, '77 Chrys. 115, P/T, 18 gal. built-in, new canvas, compass, camper style, trailer. Very clean-$4000.
27' 1970 Concord flybridge. All glass twin 270 Crusaders FWC 1980. Dinette, head, gailey. Full canvas, VHF, DF. Excl.-$17,000.
26' 1981 Seaway Sundancer, gailey, head. Sleeps 6. Hot water, swim plat. F/Canvas, auto anchor, twin batt. $24,500.
THE MOORINGS AT PIER 66, LTD, 516-654-3106.

85 hp Perkins 4 cyl. diesel 1:1 trans. FWC. All gauges. Perfect cond. $3000. After 7PM: 516-728-3151.

SHAMROCK 20' open I/B boat for all seasons. Full canvas; fish in comfort. New downrigger, new paper recorder, CB, compass, 2 batt., etc. Yard maintained. Asking $7000. 516-223-2234.

1972 27' SILVERTON, electronics, T/T. All canvas. 110/12v refrig., head, stove. $10,000. 516-796-2265.

WELLCRAFT 1974 CC 17' Fisherman, like new. 1985 Evinrude 90 hp warrantied. This boat scrams 15 miles offshore no problem. $5400. Bob Sr, 6PM-8PM Only: 516-333-5240.

CRUISERS INC 1984 20' Sea Devil, self-bailing, captains chairs, full canvas, instrumentation. Head, fire exting., 60 qt. deck mount ice chest, 2 flush, 4 upright rod holders, SS rails/hardware, half platform. CG Pkg. 77 gal. tank, SW washdown, 2 large fish boxes. Huge storage, Penn 4" downrigger, Horizon VHF, CB, AM/FM stereo. Ray Jeff 514 flasher, Si-Tex recorder, Apelco Loran, 84 Johnson 150 VRO. 10 hrs. 84 Shoreline trlr. Flawless showroom cond. Much more. $15,900. 516-698-9261.

1977 21 Thompson OMC 175 I/O C/C. Electronics; canvas. At Montauk. Excl. $8500. 516-668-3232. 201-472-3370.

35 hp Evinrude Long Shaft w/Tiller & new prop. Elec. start. Very good cond. $900. 15 hp Evinrude S.S. V. low hrs. $600. Aft. 6PM: 516-798-9209.

BOATING EQUIP.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

BOATMATE Deluxe Portable Fight chair with gimbal & attached rod holder. 360° Fiberglass pedestal mount. Like new; used 1 season. $275. After 6PM: 516-766-4279.

DON'T WAIT! The fish won't! Reel tune-up $3.50. Rod guides replaced $4. QUALITY TACKLE Repairs, Sales. 516-587-0938/3996.

BOAT TRAILERS: EZ Loader. All sizes in stock. Immediate Del. Priced right. Trailer hitches installed. SEAHORSE TRAILER, Glen Head, NY. 516-676-5313.

This Tournament Chair is rugged, yet sized to fit most any size sportfishing machine. 35% off list price on all chairs until April 5. CUSTOM MARINE WOOD PRODUCTS CO., 516-544-0705.

WANTED: Used fighting chair w/footboard. 516-931-7180; 668-3821; 931-7180.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT. Halon gas fire extinguishers. Coast Guard & UL approved. The most effective fire fighter avail. today. Aerosol, w/10-yr. guarantee. If you've never seen Halon work, call for more info & Demo. Jimmy Hayes, Bus: 516-627-5910. Res: 516-248-3899.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG., Inc., 1121-16 Lincoln Av, Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.

RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS INC., 377 Woodcleft Av, Freeport, NY; 516-623-4421.

CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No job too small—tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY, 516-623-1639.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

Two used 18" Pompanette sport fishing chair w/12" aluminum pedestal-gimbal. $300 each. 361-6899.

FIGHTING Chair, Pompanette Unlimited. Like new. Used 1-season. Cushions, cover. New $5400. Asking $4200. Eves: 516-661-5593.

Chair, Helm - Pompanette P-2000. New cond. Cushions, pedestal, footrest. New $750. Asking $525. Bimini Top, SS frame. New cond.-$275. Flybridge wraparound windshield for 31' Bertram-$200. Eves: 516-661-5593.

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MUSTAD HOOKS & Other Fine Tackle at sensible prices. Free catalog. TERMINAL TACKLE CO., Box 427, Kings Park, NY 11754.

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS
Tangle-free, tandem tied w/special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sproat hooks for more hook-ups. 3/$3.75, incl. p/h. BILL SMITH, 158 Vermont Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

VERY EXPENSIVE—Very Expensive—Very Expensive. Edelman's is NOT very expensive. See ad on Page 2.

CATCH MORE FISH—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ 07032.

CUSTOM Built 80 lb. rod w/Penn 12/0 reel, Aftco Bigfoot guides Unibutt. New. $450. 516-796-3549.

#6 SPROAT Flounder hooks. Hand tied. 6/$1. AL KAPLAN, 35-63 80th St., Jackson Hgts, NY 11372.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED TO BUY OR LEASE: Small Marina or rowboating operation. After 5PM: 914-738-5446.

RUBBERIZED APRONS. Resistant to fish oil & petroleum products. Reg. $10. Large $12. No C.O.D. Discounts over 12. KEEP KLEAN PRODUCTS, 45 Sawmill River Rd., Yonkers, NY 10701.

OWNERS OF SELF-BAILING BOATS
Install new bailing tubes w/professional results. My Hi-Tech Flaring tool will do the job quick & easy. Standard tool, all stainless steel; 5-yr. guarantee; 1" diam. tubes. Other diam. & forms avail. Specify your needs. Send $29.95 to: JOHN RICCI, P.O. Box 105, Palisades Park, NJ 07650.

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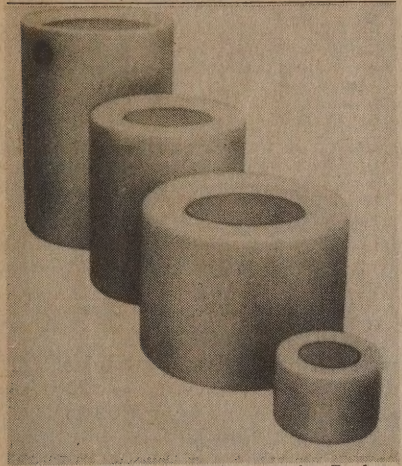
MATE WANTED to crew on Montauk charter boat. Mostly offshore. Wkdays only. Sat. & Sun. off. Experience a plus but not necessity. Will train. Send resume & references to CHARTER BOAT CAPTAIN, P.O. Box 341, Montauk, NY 11954.

14' Vee bottom aluminum boat. Solidly built & roomy-$425; Imperial Survival Suit w/case. Top condition-$200; Bucktails Jigs, 1½-2½ oz. Parachute type, polynose, open mouth models. Excl. for stripers, blues, weaks, school tuna-30/$25; custom built 80 lb. tuna rod, black & gold Aftco butt. Gold Mildrum guides. Never used-$300; Air Rifle, side cocking Hammonli .177 caliber 750 E.P.S.. Excl. cond. w/case & accessories-$250. 516-354-2674.

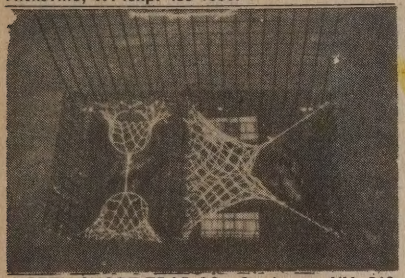
HOUSE PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

SUMMER DOCKAGE AVAILABLE. $25 per ft. $500 minimum. No wood boats. CERULLO BROS., East Moriches, 516-878-1180.



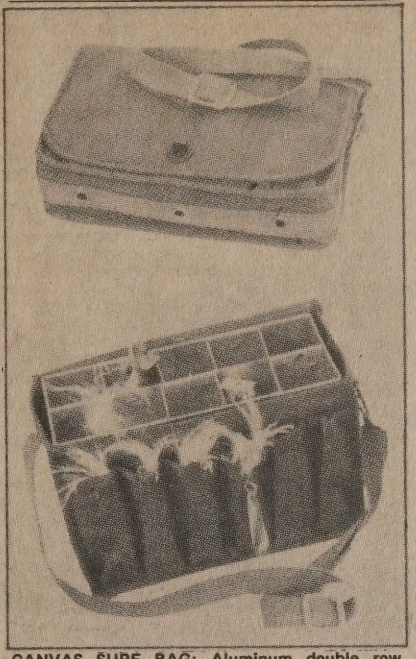
LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Av, Dept. E, Central Islip, NY 11722; 516-234-0144.

INSURANCE LOW RATES top coverage, immediate binding, free gift w/purchase. Hauppauge, Hicksville, W. Islip. 435-1666.



NORTH SHORE TRAP CO., St. James, NY. 516-584-6870. Vinyl coated lobster, crab, eel traps and all lobstering equip.

HELP WANTED: Second Mate, experienced. Weekends. Friendly, courteous persons only apply. Open Boat "Casey Lee," Bay Shore. 516-661-1867.



CANVAS SURF BAG: Aluminum double row insert, 10 compartments w/reinforced top & sides, 6 outside compartments. Dimensions: 11'L x 7"H x 4½" W. Adjustable shoulder strap, belt loops. Only $28.95 incl. ship. Mini Canvas Surf Bag: Single row w/5 compartments. 11'L x 7"H x 2"W. Same features as above. Only $19.95 incl. ship. Special—both bags for $48. Dealer inquiries invited. Write: A.T.D. LTD, 151-14 W. Industry Court, Deer Park, NY 11729.

MARINE MECHANIC NEEDED: Outboard & inboard experience needed. Queens marina. Good salary; benefits. Great opportunity for right person. 718-845-0486.

BOAT TOPS Made, canvas repair, zippers, window screens. Boat upholstery, panels, seat, cushions. After 5: 666-3326, Dan.

BOAT CLEANING—washing, waxing, interior and exterior cleaning. All types of cleaning service. Weekly, monthly, seasonal rates. Special spring open-up service. Call for free estimates. Like New Boat Cleaning, Richie: 516-826-3699.

WANTED: Windshield for 20' 1969 Cobia cuddy cabin or aluminum extruded frame parts to make windshield. 718-723-4870.

PLANNING A TRIP? Write for free catalog of Maine/New England fishing books or call 207-948-2962. THORNDIKE PRESS, P.O. Box 159A, Thorndike, Maine 04986.

CAPTAIN AVAILABLE: Responsible man, 43, licensed 50 tons, 100 miles. Block Isl. to Cape May. Experienced captain on 40' sportfisher & 42' luxury motor yacht. Power only; no sail. References. 718-332-8407. Eves. please.

FISHING TACKLE GARAGE SALE: New & Used rods, reels, lines, lures, accessories. Electric motors, electronics; clothing. Sat. March 15, 9-3 & Sun. March 16, 10-2. For Directions: 201-334-8059.

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FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN—water deliveries, boat/navigation instruction; charters & trips. 516-795-4498.

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BAYHEAD MARINA: Winter storage, boats & motors. All winter services avail. Factory certified mechanics. 718-525-5724.

MATE WANTED Full Time. Must have friendly attitude. CAPT. MIKE III, Howard Beach, 718-848-9161.

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HOLLYWOOD BEACH, FLORIDA
Ocean Queen Motel—rooms, efficiencies. Directly on beach, minutes to charter boats. $25 p.p./day Double Occupancy. Reserv. 800-874-8850.

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TJ650 TRAILER JACK

Rack & pinion gear systems operates smoothly and quickly. Self-locking worm gear holds jack at desired level. Caster wheel retracts up along the side of the frame to prevent damage. Provides up to 22" Lift. List $89.05

SALE $39.95

SOLID TEAK BOW PULPIT

Several Styles Available. Starting at

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LIST $195.00 EACH

NOW JUST 50% OFF!

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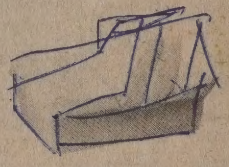

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True-Fit's smart styling allows versatility that gives maximum usability and spatial efficiency. Base height - 8" (optional heights available at additional cost).(W)-20", (H)-16½", (Wt.)-26 lbs. ea.

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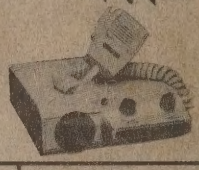
"HORIZON LTD" VHF

Features: 24 VHF channels. Standard's lifetime service warranty all solid-state construction, 25 watts of power offshore use; 1 watt in harbor, current drain - 500 milamps standby; 1.5 low transmit; 4.5 high.

$179.95



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SALE $7.95

PRO-MARINER 30/50 BATTERY CHARGER

50 amp, 3 bank LIST: $410.00

SALE $199.95
SAVE OVER 50%!

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MARINE SILICONE POLISH

Only $4.49

rule 450 gph PUMP

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REPLACE OUTDATED FLARES NOW WITH

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12V 85 AMP MARINE BATTERY

~~$89.95~~

JOHNSON/ EVINRUDE 50:1 OUTBOARD LUBRICANT

$29.99/case
24 - 16 oz. Cans

PORTABLE SIX-GALLON TANK

Handle for easy carrying; fuel fill fully threaded for sure, snug fit; vented fuel guage gas cap relieves pressure as it builds. List: $28.00

NOW $14.95

GRUMMAN CANOES NOW ON SALE!

WOOLSEY 40% OFF All Antifoulant Bottom Paint

	SALE PRICE
Stainless Steel 60° Rail Base	4.95
Teak Step Pads	3.95/pair
Teak Compass Frames	4.95 ea.
Perko Hasp	2.95
Instrument Panel Fuse Holder	.59¢

	SALE PRICE
Instrument Panels	3.95
Teak Knife Rack	6.95
Heavy Duty Teak Handrail	12.95
Attwood 3 Gal Plastic Fuel Tank	9.95
Selected Nautolex Deck Covering	60% off list

	SALE PRICE
Double Dome Cabin Lights	6.95
Attwood Runabout Steering Wheels	9.95
Perko Combination Bow/Anchor Lights	14.95
True-Fit Helm Seats	50% Off
Assorted Stainless-Chrome Deck Hardware	50% Off

...Seaford Marine presents once in a lifetime savings. Over 1,000 items from the four Chris Craft plants on sale for the first time at below cost prices. Many items are discontinued due to a change in suppliers. Come in and save! Sale pertains to current store stock only. SALE ENDS MARCH 23rd.

Seaford Marine - 3748 merrick road - seaford, ny 11783 - 516-785-3280